

DIRECT ACTION

WEB
FEATURE

A special feature from DirectAction.org

from the DA Archives

GroundWork 02: Health and Organizing

GroundWork was a successor to Direct Action newspaper – for which the novel *Direct Action* was named. In 1989, several former DA collective members joined a San Francisco-based collective publishing Green Letter magazine, loosely affiliated with the pre-Green Party grassroots Greens' movement.

In 1992, as the Greens morphed into an electoral party, we renamed the magazine GroundWork and became an independent grassroots voice. Circulation peaked at 8000 copies, with subscribers in almost every US state and Canadian province as well as across Europe.

Each issue offered general grassroots reporting as well as in-depth coverage of a particular theme. The issues on Nuclear Waste were the most comprehensive report available on this secretive and ever-shifting topic in the 1990s.

- GroundWork Issue 1 (1992) - 500 Years of Resistance
- GroundWork Issue 2 (1992) - Health and Organizing
- GroundWork Issue 3 (1993) - Nuclear Waste - Part I
- GroundWork Issue 4 (1994) - Nuclear Waste - Part II
- GroundWork Issue 5 (1995) - Grassroots Dialog
- GroundWork Issue 6 (1996) - Defending Our Forests
- GroundWork Issue 7 (1998) - Grassroots Overview

Download all seven issues at: DirectAction.org/groundwork/

Photo: 2011 Foreclose the Banks protest in downtown San Francisco, by Luke Hauser.

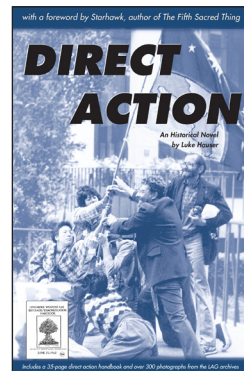


DIRECT ACTION

Free download at DA.org

Direct Action: An Historical Novel by Luke Hauser, is available as a free PDF download at our website — all 768 pages and 300+ pictures!

You can also order a copy of the book for just \$9.95 plus shipping.

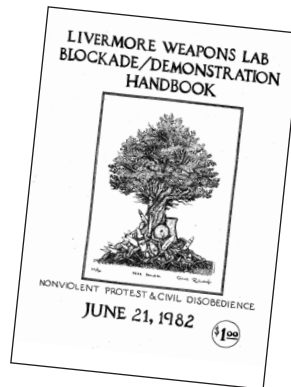


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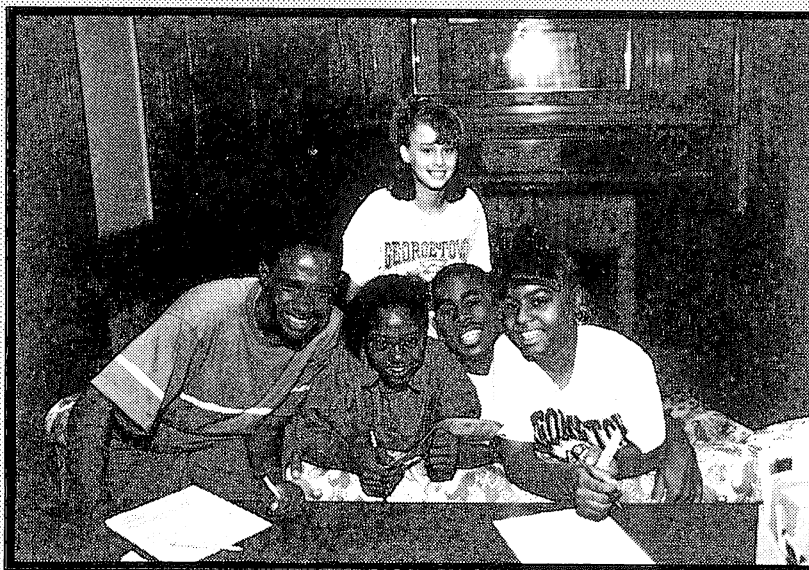
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Ground

Formerly Green Letter

Work



**Youth Reclaim
Community in
Detroit**

**Anti-Nuclear Organizing in
Russia and Nevada**



**Free Healthcare in
San Francisco**



Health & Community

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GroundWork

GroundWork is a photo-news magazine covering community organizing, direct action, and other grassroots work. GroundWork was formerly called "Green Letter." Our fiscal sponsor is the Tides Foundation.

We feature regular coverage of many grassroots networks, and issues, including women's organizing, Native American news, American Peace Test/Nevada Test Site, gay, lesbian and bisexual issues, Food Not Bombs, art & resistance, Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice, ACT UP, bioregionalists, and more.

GroundWork carries twelve pages of news from the Greens, a network of local organizing groups throughout the United States. GW includes reports from Green locals as well as coverage of national campaigns. Because of nonprofit laws, we are limited in our coverage of Green Party organizing.

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Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of GroundWork.

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Due to both financial and time constraints, we are currently publishing about every four months. Donors receive at least four issues.



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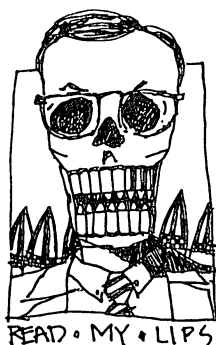


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Submitting Articles, Graphics & Photos to GroundWork

GroundWork welcomes reports from readers. You are our connection to the grass-roots in your area. We are particularly interested in accounts of events and actions, and appreciate analytical articles which are tied to specific organizing. We will consider press releases or original accounts of events.

Groups — Put us on your mailing list. We look through the dozens of publications we receive, to get ideas for stories. Also, consider getting bulk bundles of GroundWork to resell as a fundraiser for your group — see back inside cover.

Photographers: Photos are essential to our vision of GroundWork. We want photos of events, actions, art projects, community organizing and service, and alternative culture. We can return photos after using them, and will consider paying for processing, printing and mailing — please contact us first, at (415) 255-7623.

Artists: We appreciate receiving graphic work. Please do not send original artwork. High-quality xeroxes or stats are great; if you have your work scanned into a Mac format that can be read by Aldus Pagemaker, that works well too. But we are glad to accept xeroxed work.

Readers: Keep us in touch with your area. Show GroundWork to people you know. Ask groups to send us their newsletters. And when you are involved in a project, send us a photo and a short account.

If you can distribute sample copies at a conference, or to groups and bookstores in your area, let us know — call (415) 255-7623 or see back inside cover.

And please — Support us financially! We depend on your donations to publish GroundWork.

See back inside cover for ways you can help.

The Moderate Environmentalist

by George Stump

I guess bein' a moderate environmentalist kinda comes with the territory when you own a timber company. I know it does in my case. I pride myself on being a *moderate* clearcutter. And I work moderately hard to ensure that my lobbyin' concern, *Slash, Burn, Cash and Carry*, keeps the environment moderate.

Bein' a timber man, I understand that trees are a resource. They're like people: they're there to be cut down. The environment is a wonderful place, and you've got to go out there and get all the wonderful things it has to offer, in order to give your grandchildren the opportunity to pay for it.

Lotsa folks are talkin' now about alternative energies. But what are they alternatives to? Are they saying they want people to get out of their cars? This is an interesting thought. I got out of my car once. Of course, bein' a moderate, I left the motor runnin'. And the air conditioning. But now you hear people talkin' about runnin' cars on alcohol fuel, and that's plain wrong. Alcohol's for people, not for cars. The car should not drink and drive. You should have a designated drinker, and it should not be the car.

Then they talk about solar power. Well, any power's fine, long as it's mine. And right now there's three of our utility companies building the largest solar entrapment unit in the world, out there in the Mojave Desert,

in order to provide that energy to those less fortunate, who cannot afford their own sun. But in the solar era, you must solarize prudently. You should never look directly at the sun, and you must never directly entrap the sun's

patch kit. It comes in its own spray can. Call me a do-gooder, but I do. We all gotta pull together.

Global warming, you see, is not caused by people. It's caused by cows.

Cow flatulence, you see, which contains methane. Now don't get me wrong, I got nothin' against the vegetarians, although I don't eat 'em myself of course. I like k.d. lang. I got nothin' against the vegetarian lesbian cowgirl singers—I s'pose they call themselves cow-women singers now—I don't care. As long as they don't try to move in next door and marry my daughter! But this lesbian

vegetarian thing is goin' too far. If we get rid of the cows, what will we use to warm the planet? I admit that cows are eatin up all them greenhouse grasses, and that's a problem. But I think President Bush explained it pretty good to all them bitty nations down in Rio, and they understand now that the Greenhouse Effect ain't half the problem the White House effect is!

George Stump tours nationally, clearcutting all questions about the environment, along with his cousin George Shrub, the world's only known singing CIA agent. Contact them care of Dave Lippman, PO Box 10764, Oakland, CA 94610, 510-893-5845.



Bob Thawley

rays. You should always filter those rays through a corporation.

People complain a lot about wholesale destruction of the environment. Well, I can get it for you retail, if you insist, but why are people complainin' about the new national energy policy? There's nothin to complain about, when you think about it! And as for toxic waste, as the Vice President has said, "Waste is a terrible thing to mind."

But the ozone, now there's a real problem that we must all work on. You must take responsibility for your personal ozone space. Every night I go out on my patio and use my ozone



Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc.

An example of community empowerment and care

Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc. (HAFCI) is a community based affiliation of individual free clinics, providing health care, education, training and research. It has served the health needs of the San Francisco Bay Area since 1967, recording more than 1,00,000 client visits. The majority of HAFCI clients are working poor, medically indigent adults, at risk youths and other individuals who are unable to bear any sudden medical expenses. By strictly adhering to its philosophies and ideals, HAFCI has, for 25 years, maintained a high level of trust and respect in the community it serves.

The original Haight Ashbury Free Medical "Clinics" opened its doors in June 1967 in response to the undeniable health care needs of young people living in the Haight Ashbury community at the time. Its original goal of providing quality health care free at the point of delivery, that is humane, demystified and nonjudgemental, still forms the bedrock of the Clinics philosophy. HAFCI was the first of more than 600 free clinics nationwide, and

We believe that health care is a right not a privilege.

over the past 21 years it has been an example of innovation and positive change to the community health care field in general.

During the years, HAFCI has been instrumental in the formation of national health policies both in the US and around the world. HAFCI has remained on the cutting edge of medical practices, pioneering work in fields such as HIV treatment and substance abuse, education and prevention.

In an era of human service cutbacks, HAFCI fills a need for the old, young, working poor, unemployed, and the middle class who cannot afford private medical care. The clinics currently serve over 50,000 patients a year from a broad spectrum of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.



Drug Detoxification, Rehabilitation and Aftercare and the Women's Needs Center

Drug Detoxification, Rehabilitation and Aftercare was the first outgrowth of HAFCI, establishing itself as a separate program in 1969. Since its inception, Detox has operated on the belief that chemical dependency is a treatable and preventable disease from which affected people can and do progress into productive, content, meaningful and healthy lives. Over 90% of the programs clients are self-referring.

The Women's Needs Center (WNC) was the next addition

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Free Clinic

Continued from page 3

to the center. Volunteers at Detox decided that the pregnant addicts needed more women-oriented services than they were getting. In 1974 WNC received its first contract from the Office of Family Planning (OFP), which enabled it to move into its own space, hire its own staff and provide specific services for women. Services at WNC have both broadened and deepened in its twenty two years. As a family planning program, WNC is often the only provider of health care for many of its clients. The family planning program now includes more thorough testing and treatment of abnormal Pap smears, more forms of birth control, general screenings and cervical cancer services specifically for HIV positive women.

In 1988 WNC started an anonymous HIV testing program and 1989 the clinic began WOMAN Project to provide street outreach and safer sex education services for clients of social service agencies. Recently a smoking cessation group geared toward mothers of small children has begun as well as the hiring of a substance abuse case manager to provide counseling and referrals.

Rock Medicine and Jail Psychiatric Services(JPS)

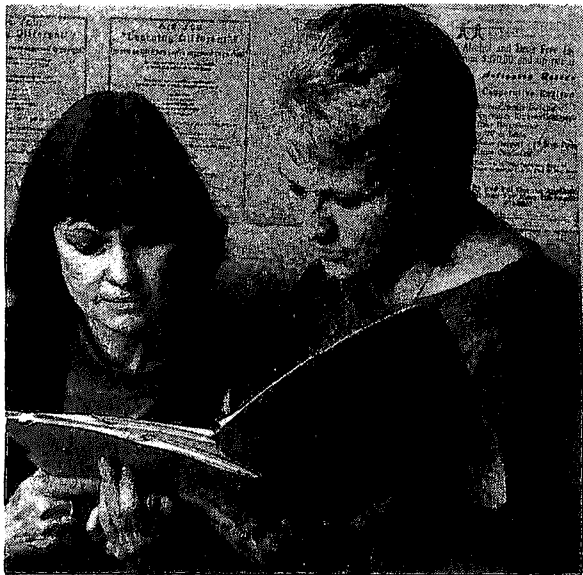
Rock Medicine began when Bill Graham asked the Haight Ashbury Clinics to staff a medical emergency care tent at the Grateful Dead and Led Zeppelin outdoor concerts. This concept evolved into Rock Med and now provides service at concerts, community marches, celebrations, fairs and assorted other events.

Rock Med is mobile. A comprehensive assortment of supplies, medications and equipment travels in road boxes modeled on those the bands use to transport their equipment. Some have likened Rock Med to an urgent care center, a front line station where patients come for minor illness, injury, referral and/or transport to a hospital when necessary. Rock Med's volunteers also provide a strong element of emotional support for patients and their friends.

Jail Psychiatric Services (JPS) was founded to provide comprehensive psychiatric treatment to persons incarcerated in the San Francisco City and County jail system. The

primary objective of JPS treatment intervention is the reduction of psychological distress and behavior dysfunction harmful to both the individual inmate and those around him or her. JPS offers crisis intervention, screening, initial evaluation, ongoing individual or group psychotherapy, medication evaluation and monitoring, post-release placement and referral services, Municipal and Superior Court-ordered evaluation, psychiatrically segregated housing units for chronically impaired and subacute inmates and hospitalization for seriously disturbed inmates. Treatment is voluntary.

Jail Aftercare Services was established in conjunction with the Jail Diversion Pilot Project to expand post release and case management services, by reaching out to chronically mentally ill inmates who may also have concurrent substance abuse problems. Jail Aftercare assists these inmates in obtaining treatment and social support services upon release from jail.



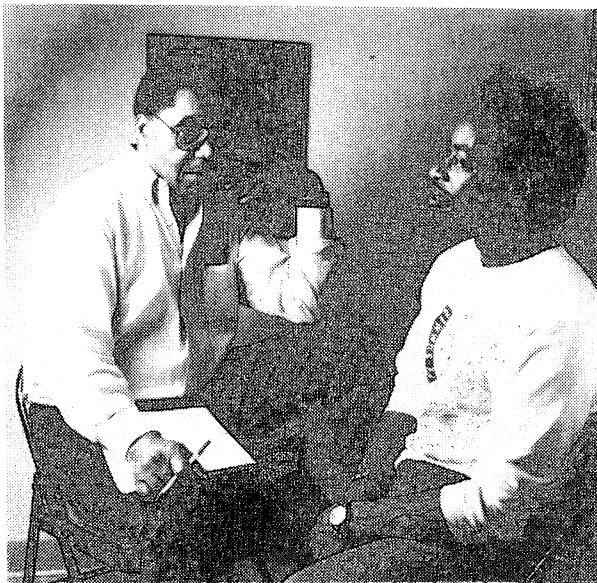
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An Alcohol Treatment Center and Smith House



Haight Ashbury Alcohol Treatment Services (HAATS) began providing care in 1984. HAATS provides comprehensive out-patient treatment for alcoholics, co-alcoholics, and adult children of alcoholics and their families. Alcoholism is viewed in a non-judgemental way as a primary and treatable disease that impacts all family members. HAATS works with a diverse population, serving over 1800 clients annually from the Haight to the general San Francisco area. Last year the group added a Men's Anger Group, as well as Creativity, Yoga, Lesbian and Men's and Women's Sexuality and Recovery groups. Community Outreach provides an interchange of referrals and information with other agencies so that clients are maximally aware of social services in the Bay Area. Outreach also helps educate the larger community regarding the nature of Alcoholism and its treatment.



Smith House is one of the newest services at HAFCI. The house is an all women's detox facility. The philosophy of Smith House emphasizes that detox is more than the warehousing of bodies during the 3-5 days while they clear themselves of alcohol and other toxins. Upon entering Smith House, each woman's needs are assessed through the intake process.

Even at the most vulnerable of times, most women are able to join small informal groups where alcohol related issues are discussed. Guided meditations and relaxation techniques provide clients with tools to ease the discomfort of withdrawal.

Along with the care provided by the HAFCI programs, HAFCI also works as a training facility for volunteers, who are essential to the running of the programs. Volunteers get practical training in areas of basic health education, treatment, and intake work, etc. HAFCI is a strong example of what communities are capable of when met with the crisis of lack of funds and services.

For more information on the Haight Ashbury Free Clinics call or write 333 California St. Ste. 109 San Francisco CA 94118 (415)563-2715 or Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic 558 Clayton St. San Francisco CA 94117 (415)431-1714

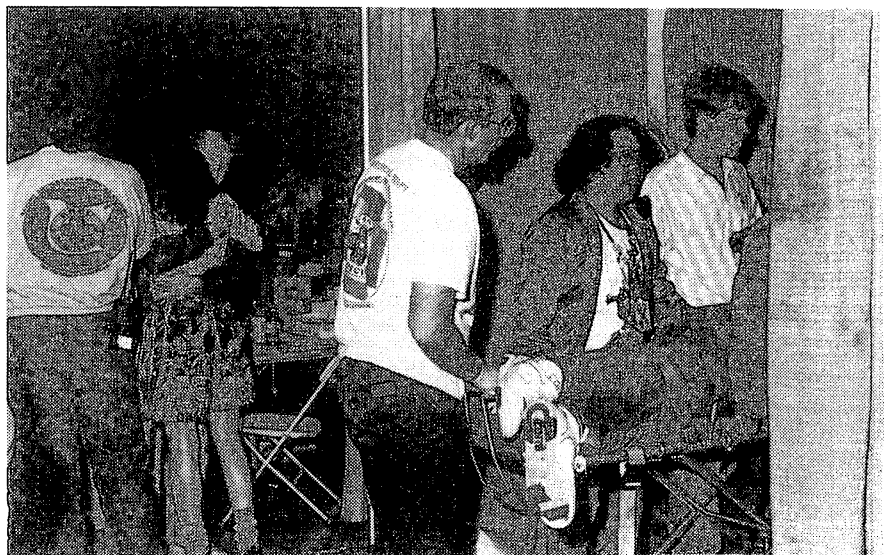
Photos by: Virginia Morgan, Ester Kutnick (Rock Medicine Photos)

Page 3: top- Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic, Inc. center- Women's Needs Center bottom- Haight Ashbury Drug Detox and Rehabilitation Center

Page 4: top- Jail Psychiatric Services center- Women's Needs Center

bottom - Smith House

Page 5: top- Rock Medicine center- Haight Ashbury Alcohol Treatment Services bottom- Rock Medicine



Occupational Health and Safety Issues for Workers of Color

by Pam Tau Lee

This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of the completion of the Gauley Bridge hydroelectric plant, built by a Union Carbide subsidiary in West Virginia. Often called the "Hawk's Nest" project, this construction site was the scene of the worst industrial disaster in US history. Through interviews and studies of old records, Martin Cherniack reports that of the 764 workers who died within five years after the completion of the project, 75% were African Americans. The cause of most of these deaths was silicosis, a disease due to the silica dust the workers breathed while tunneling through the solid mountain rock.

Union Carbide was aware of the hazards involved in this project and provided company engineers with respirators when they entered the tunnel. The tunnel workers received no such protection. When the tunnel workers refused to dig any longer, only the African American workers were physically forced back into the tunnel. Cherniack shows that Union Carbide, the media and the local power structure reported these deaths and illnesses as resulting from the "poor habits of nutrition" among African-Americans. Lawsuits filed on behalf of the dead workers' families eventually resulted in a maximum amount

of only \$400 each for single black men compared to \$800 for single white men.

In 1989 the same company, Union Carbide, was responsible when its factory in Bhopal, India released deadly fumes into the air, killing two thousand people including children.

Today, workers of color throughout the world, and workers of color in the US are consistently employed in the dirtiest and most dangerous jobs. As a result, they suffer a disproportionately high rate of illness, injury and death. One study found that the average Black worker is 37% to 52% more likely to sustain a serious job-related accident or illness than the average white worker. According to a study by Robinson (1984), African American workers with the same levels of education and experience as whites will, on average, find themselves in substantially more dangerous occupations. Davis and Rowland in their 1980 studies say statistics for Latino, Asian and Native American workers are incomplete, but the same can probably be said for their experiences as well. Examples include the following:

Steel: In steel mills, an overwhelming number of African American workers have overwhelmingly been placed in the most hazardous areas of the plant.

Semiconductor: These workers, predominantly Asian and Latina immigrant women, experience occupational illness at three times the rate of workers in general manufacturing. Illness includes damage to the central nervous system and possibly the reproductive system as a result of using dangerous solvents to clean electronic components, as well as exposure to other chemicals.

Agriculture: Farmworkers and their families are exposed to dangerous pesticides



from working and living near the fields. They are also injured from falls and the use of faulty equipment. Most US farmworkers are Latinos and Asians.

Garment: Garment workers still work in 19th century sweatshop conditions in US cities. The facilities are inadequately ventilated, poorly lit and overcrowded. Exposure to fiber particles, dyes, formaldehyde and arsenic used to treat the fabric cause high rates of

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Slower Casualties of War

by Steve Bentley

Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is defined by the American Psychiatric Association as an anxiety (emotional) disorder which stems from a particular incident evoking a significant stress. PTSD can be found among survivors of the holocaust, of car accidents, of sexual assaults, and of other traumatic experiences such as combat. The fact is, PTSD is a new name for an old story—war has always had a severe psychological impact on people in immediate and lasting ways.

For instance, the Greek historian Herodotus, in writing of the battle of Marathon in 490 B.C., reports of an Athenian warrior who went permanently blind when the soldier standing next to him was killed, although the blinded soldier "was wounded in no part of his body." So, too, blindness, deafness, and paralysis, among other conditions, are common forms of "conversion reactions" experienced and well-documented among soldiers today.

During the siege of Gibraltar in 1727, a soldier who was part of the defense of the city kept a diary. In it there is mention of incidents in which soldiers killed or wounded themselves. He also describes a state of extreme fatigue which had caused soldiers to lose their ability to understand or process even the simplest instructions. In this state, the soldiers would refuse to eat, drink, work, or fight in defense of the city, even though they would be repeatedly whipped for not doing so.

The French surgeon Larrey describes the disorder—what we now call PTSD—as having three different stages. The first is heightened excitement and imagination; the second is a period of fever and prominent gastrointestinal symptoms; the final stage is one of frustration and depression.

Richard Gabriel was a consultant to the Senate and House Armed Services committees and one of the best chroniclers of PTSD. His research tells us that in 1863, the number of insane soldiers simply wandering around was so great, there was a public outcry. Because of this, and at the urging of medical surgeons, the first military hospital for

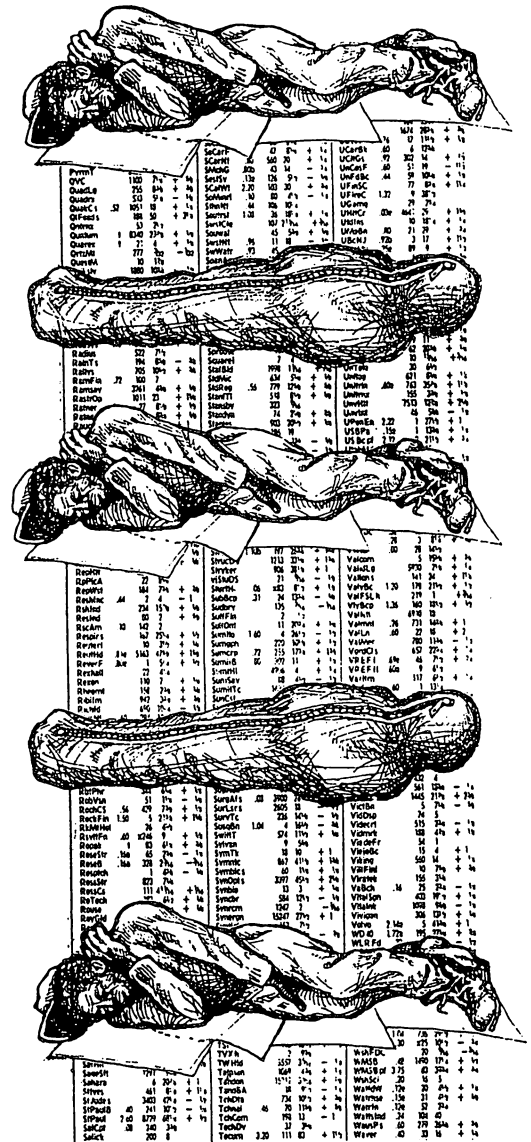
the insane was established in 1863. The most common diagnosis was nostalgia. The government made no effort to deal with the psychiatrically wounded after the war and the hospital was closed.

The discounting of effects of the trauma by charging the victim with having ulterior motives was also common in the military. "It is by lack of discipline, confidence, and respect that many a young soldier has become discouraged and made to feel the bitter pangs of homesickness, which usually the precursor of more serious ailments," commented the assistant surgeon general in 1864, reflecting the sentiment that most who suffered signs and symptoms of war trauma were, in fact, malingering.

Unfortunately, the attitude that combat veterans with psychological problems are really malingerers who are trying to gain economically is still with us today. That attitude, combined with veterans' pride and distrust, accounts for the fact that, while a Research Triangle Institute study concludes 830,000 Vietnam veterans have full-blown or partial PTSD, only 55,119 have filed claims, and the adjudication boards have only believed 28,411 (July 1990) of those claimants.

The outbreak of WWI produced large numbers of psychologically wounded. Unfortunately, what little had been learned up to then was forgotten. The only American experience with psychiatric casualties that anyone remembered was when American soldiers stationed with Gen John J. Pershing on the Mexican front had exhibited an abnormally high rate of mental illness. Consequentially, the medical establishment set out once again to recreate the wheel. This time, they began by attributing the high psychiatric casualties to the new weapons of war; specifically, the large-caliber artillery. It was believed the impact of the shells produced a concussion that disrupted the physiology of the brain, thus the term "shell shock."

During WWI, almost two million men were sent overseas to fight in Europe.



Deaths were put at 116,516, while 204,000 were wounded. During the same period, 159,000 soldiers were out of action for psychiatric problems, with nearly half of these (70,000) permanently discharged.

In World War II, the ratio of rear-area support troops to combat troops was twelve to one. In the four years of war, no more than 800,000 soldiers saw direct combat, and of these, 37.5% became such serious psychiatric cases, they were permanently discharged.

While it's true that we detach ourselves from war in order to survive, it's also clear that the act of detachment is itself a kind of willed destruction. It's the price paid; it's why we never learn. The psychic

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Needle Exchange

by Bill Weinberg

Photos by Andrew Lichtenstein

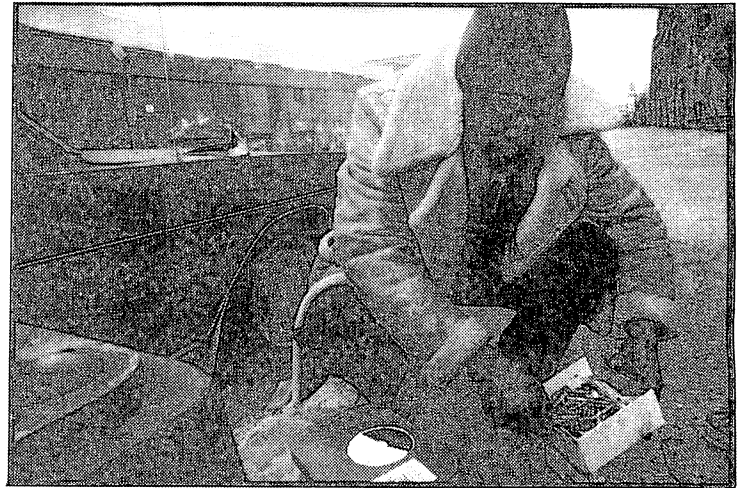
The slow-moving bureaucracy of financially-strapped New York City has just received two grants totaling \$140,000 from the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) for city-run needle-exchange programs. The programs are designated for those communities hit hardest by the AIDS crisis, including Harlem, the South Bronx, and the Lower East Side. AmFAR also funds needle exchange programs in San Francisco, Chicago and Boulder.

David Dinkins, New York's first African American mayor, has recently softened his stance against such programs. He had previously argued that they "condone" drug use. Activists counter that they are necessary to halt the spread of AIDS, especially in a city where treatment programs for addicts have been decimated by slashing budget cuts.

Dinkins' turn-around on needle exchange comes after a long campaign by grassroots activists who distributed needles on New York streets in defiance of the law, and were frequently prosecuted by the Dinkins administration.

Untraditional Allies and Adversaries

The needle exchange issue has not broken down along traditional lines of left and right. It was the administration of former Mayor Ed Koch, wedded to the then-booming real estate industry and wracked by numerous corruption scandals, which had implemented a trial needle exchange program in January 1988. Koch was prompted into the move after the activist group ADAPT (Association for Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment) announced, in the midst of the NY Police Department's most stringent drug crackdown in several years, that they were willing to distribute clean needles to addicts in defiance of the law.



Needle exchange, Bushwick, Brooklyn

Koch immediately sought—and received—a waiver from the state law against needle distribution. But the plan remained controversial, especially in the African American communities hit hardest by the drug and AIDS crises. Harlem City Councilman Hilton Clark called the needle distribution "genocide," and said that the program's architect, City Health Commissioner Stephen Joseph, "should be arrested for murder and drug distribution." Harlem U.S. Representative Charles Rangel, a liberal on most issues but an extreme hard-liner where drugs are concerned, said needle exchange programs "would keep addicts out of sight, out of mind,

Needle Exchange Resources

- Seattle activists have published a "how-to" manual on needle exchange, covering legal issues, AIDS, cross-cultural organizing, working with IV-drug users, and more. Contact ACT UP-Seattle, 1206 E. Pike #814, Seattle, WA 98122.
- Health Policy Advisory Center, a New York-based group working for decent, affordable health care since 1968, published an extensive survey of needle exchange programs nationwide in its Fall 1990 Bulletin. Contact Health/PAC, 17 Murray St, New York NY 10007, 212-267-8890.
- Oakland CA attorney Bill Simpich has successfully defended needle exchange arrestees. For legal information, call 510-444-0226.
- GroundWork will cover other needle exchange programs — legal and extralegal — in future issues.



Needle exchange, Williamsburg, Brooklyn

in New York City

and sweep them under the rug instead of restoring their dignity and giving them drug-free lives." The Police Department, which is frequently the target of harsh criticism by African American activists in New York over issues of brutality and abuse, was also critical of the plan. So was the *New York Times*, asking in an editorial, "How can a city ravaged by heroin condone its use?"

The Real Genocide

But Dr. Beny Primm, director of Harlem's Addiction Research and Treatment Center, countered that "you may call people racist now if they adopt this policy; but if they do not do it, in five years you will accuse them of racist genocide." And ADAPT's Yolanda Serrano said that withholding clean needles was "the real genocide. People can survive addiction, but they can't survive AIDS."

However, needle exchange advocates also had criticisms of the program. They charged that the city Health Department was exchanging notes with the police and this was discouraging addicts from coming forward to participate. Further, activists charged that soaring rents and social service cutbacks of the Koch era had actually worsened the AIDS crisis, driving large segments of the city's low-income population into homelessness—on the streets which are infested with drugs and where access to medical care is inadequate at best. This sentiment helped bring the comparatively liberal administrations of David Dinkins to power in 1990.

Upon taking office, Dinkins immediately suspended the needle exchange program. Activists were not slow to respond,



Counseling an addict

initiating their own programs on the streets of the Lower East Side in defiance of the law. Jon Parker of the National AIDS Brigade was arrested for possession of clean needles at a December 1990 ACT UP demonstration outside the New York courthouse, calling for clean needles and support for the herbal Ibogaine detox program. Parker suffered crushed ligaments in his wrist when he was handcuffed, and currently has a brutality suit pending against the NYPD.

In 1991, ten activists from ACT UP and the National AIDS Brigade were acquitted in New York City by Judge Laura Drager, who accepted the "defense of necessity" argument that they were morally obligated to break the law in order to prevent a greater evil from taking place—HIV infection. Also in 1991, charges were dismissed against Italian Radical Party MPs Emma Bonino and Marco Taradash after they attempted to deliver clean needles to Mayor Dinkins on the steps of City Hall.

The Turning Point

The real turning point for Dinkins came in the fall of 1991 when his Health Department, in a period of administrative flux since Health Commissioner Woodrow Myers had left office under a barrage of criticism for his advocacy of forcible quarantine of HIV-positives, forwarded to the mayor a report on a Yale University study of the needle exchange program of New Haven, Connecticut. The New Haven program had been initiated in 1990 by that city's first African American mayor, John C. Daniels. The program succeeded in cutting the rate of HIV infection among New Haven's 4000 addicts by over 30%. New York City has an estimated 200,000 addicts, and in both cities, AIDS is spreading faster among addicts than among any other "risk groups."

In May 1992, Dinkins and his new acting Health Commissioner Margaret Hamburg accepted the AmFAR grant, and endorsed the group's successful bid to seek a waiver from the state needle control laws. The \$140,000 grant was divided equally between two nonprofit groups, the Lower East Side Needle Exchange Program, and the

continued on page 59



On the streets of Bushwick, Brooklyn, an addict uses a clean needle kit obtained from the (at that time) illegal needle exchange

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity: A Growing Problem

by Cindy Duehring from
the Environmental Access Research
Network

What do chemical hypersensitivity, heart attacks, nausea, fatigue, headache, irritability, difficulty concentrating, short term memory loss, personality change, birth defects, muscle and joint aches, autoimmune diseases (such as thyroiditis, lupus and rheumatoid arthritis,) reactive airway disease, heart palpitations, neuropathy, blurred vision, myopia and cancer all have in common? According to the scientific, medical and government literature, they can all be caused by various chemicals commonly found in our society. They are used in our consumer products and synthetic building materials in our homes schools and workplaces. What is hotly debated is the *level* at which chemicals can cause adverse health effects.

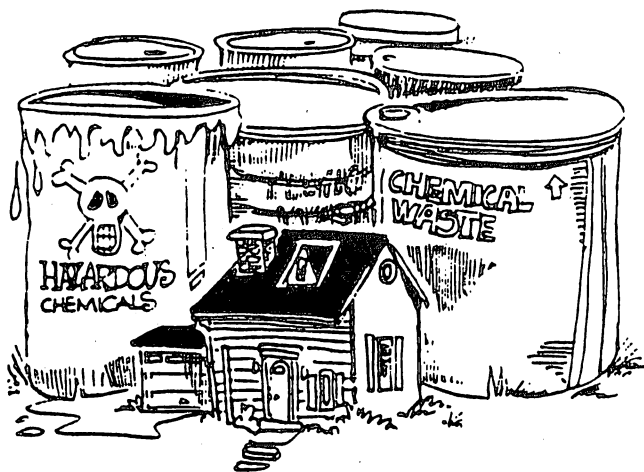
Informal estimates range from 20 to 80% of our society as being somewhat sensitive to low level exposures of chemicals such as the petrochemicals found in perfumes, cosmetics, pesticides, cleaners and synthetic materials. What is becoming increasingly obvious is that the number of people who have severe Multiple Chemical Sensitivities (MCS) is shocking and growing at a serious pace.

What is MCS? Research has barely begun to even define it. The National Academy of Sciences held a workshop in March 1991 in an attempt to do so. In general, MCS is considered to involve a wide variety of symptoms ranging from mild to severe, involving more than one organ system. Symptoms are triggered by low level exposure to a number of chemicals. Onset of MCS may occur after a severe poisoning, or as in the case of "Sick Building Syndrome" from chronic exposure over time. At the present time there is no real "cure" except avoidance. "Cleaning up" one's home and living environment is absolutely essential to stabilize one's condition or gradually improve it.

Breast Cancer Detection:
See page 20

Symptoms recur with re-exposure. If exposures continue unabated, the result is increasingly more debilitating reactions and in some instances death has resulted.

The actual mechanisms of MCS are currently unknown. Most researchers who are taking a serious look believe they involve some combination of immune, biochemical and neurological damage because



actual chemical injury and deficiencies are being found in these areas for a number of MCS individuals.

The studies that have been widely publicized claiming MCS is merely a psychogenic phenomenon are seriously flawed and have failed to shed any light on the *origin* of the disease. This was the conclusion reached by Linda Davidoff PhD, a clinical psychologist at Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, in her paper presented at a symposium on MCS at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, November 1991.

In a September 1991 MCS workshop, sponsored by the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics in Washington DC, Grace Ziem, MD, PhD, a member of the American Public Health Association's "MCS Task Force," stated that initially she was skeptical about low level chemical exposures limits and found them to be "scientifically faulty." Dr. Ziem further stated, "No-effect levels extrapolated from chronic animal studies were often orders of magnitude below current legal exposure limits."

Why? It shouldn't be surprising. Dr.

Ziem and other researchers warn that the chemical industry played a major role in setting the legal exposure standards for their own products! These standards are based on what is convenient for industry, not on what will actually protect the public. Then add to this the gross lack of immunologic and neurologic chronic exposure safety testing done on the products we take for granted in our everyday life.

Considering the logical ramifications for the chemical industry's sales and liability, and our government worker's compensation and Social Security Disability programs, it's amazing that MCS has made political headway. For example, both the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development and the California Attorney General's Commission on Disability 1989 Final Report recognize MCS along with recommendations for accommodation.

Susan Malloy's efforts in San Francisco, working with Paul Imperiale, Mayor's Office of Community Development, resulted in the draft "Environmental Illness/Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Access Plan" which would protect the public not just from cigarette smoke, but pesticides, perfumes and other toxic exposures which make it nearly impossible for many with MCS to do such "simple" things as use a public restroom or sit in a hospital waiting room.

The bottom line is prevention. Countless nontoxic products are available. Some school systems are opting for mandatory Integrated Pest Management which uses less toxic pest and weed control methods. The alternative to prevention is a denial that would eventually break the economic back of our country as the number of men, women and children disabled by chemical injuries continue to mount.

For medical/scientific documentation to back up the statements in the paper contact: Environmental Access Research Network, Route 1 Box 16-G, Epping ND 58843



Challenges Facing Women with HIV

by Denise J.D. Benson, MFCC and
Catherine Maier, MA

Society has not adequately responded to the needs of women with HIV disease. Women comprise "only 9 percent of frank AIDS cases in the US." Four years ago, "only" 4 percent of these cases were among women. In fact, women proportionately represent the fastest growing segment of people with AIDS in the US. This increase has included women who have had sexual contact with bisexual or intravenous (IV.) drug using men, as well as women who have been IV. drug users themselves. At the same time women remain undereducated about HIV risks and are vulnerable to misdiagnosis by medical practitioners who remain ignorant of the clinical manifestations of HIV disease in women, which can include vaginal infections, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), and cervical dysplasia.

The diverse needs of women with HIV disease remain largely uninvestigated. The inclusion of women in clinical trials and research protocols continues to be limited. An unfortunate outcome of this discriminatory process, beyond the obvious ramifications for the individual, is that the medical picture and psychosocial needs of women with HIV disease remain unstudied and unrecognized.

There is no single socioeconomic or psychological profile that describes all women affected by AIDS. Case experience, however, suggests that women with HIV are predominantly poor, and that disproportionate number are women of color.



Many women lead lives with significantly limited resources, complicated by child rearing, their own or a family member's substance abuse, psychological problems, encounters with the criminal justice system, and homelessness and other manifestations of poverty. These women are accustomed to discriminatory treatment and therefore do not readily seek or trust service providers in a system they perceive as hostile and punitive. In the end, HIV disease is one more challenge for these women; basic needs usually take priority over HIV prevention and treatment. These factors lead women to come to the attention of care providers later in disease processes of all kinds, including HIV-related ones.

There are an increasing number of women who, prior to their HIV infections, were not struggling to meet basic needs. With the introduction of the HIV disease, however, these women wrestle with their fears of becoming not only stigmatized, but also economically and physically dependent upon their families or the social service and public healthcare systems should they become ill.

Many people in the social underclass of US society, which includes most HIV infected people, live with the burden of society's disdain. AIDS becomes an excuse for society to express hostility toward and separate from those most affected by the epidemic. For women with HIV disease, in particular, issues of isolation, trust, and empowerment continue to be central, regardless of their class or cultural backgrounds, or alcohol or other drug-abuse histories.

The medical establishment, most notably the Center for Disease Control

(CDC), continue to base their recommendations on clinical and research data about HIV disease in men. Currently the CDC does not recognize as indicators of HIV disease the gynecological conditions with which infected women often present. This means that women are often incorrectly

There are an increasing number of women who, prior to their HIV infections, were not struggling to meet basic needs.

diagnosed and that the number of AIDS cases among women is under reported. It is notable that women's societal invisibility is not only an effect, but also a cause of the phenomenon.

The appropriate clinical response to this situation is to create therapeutic environments that address the hierarchy of human needs, from food, shelter, clothing, and medical care to psychological and interpersonal issues such as trust autonomy, self-esteem, and intimacy. In many cases, this means adopting a team approach in which case managers, health care practitioners, and counselors plan interventions together.

Researchers must publicize quickly to the AIDS care community, as well as, the medical establishment, their findings concerning the medical, social, and psychological manifestations of HIV disease in women. Counselors cannot wait for researchers to decide that women are worthy of study or to prove that women are affected by the epidemic, or for a critical mass of women to apply for services like group therapy; they must begin by offering low cost or free counseling services to women, demonstrating that women's concerns are considered and their lives valued.

Excerpted from an article in FOCUS A Guide to Aids Research and Counseling, part of the AIDS Health Project. For more information contact the Editor of FOCUS at UCSF AIDS Health Project, Box 0884 San Francisco, CA 94143-0884

The Health Care System

Dr. Wally Gordon

Health is not merely absence of disease. It is physical, mental and social well-being. Many people do not have this feeling because their diet and housing are inadequate or their environment is polluted or their conditions of work are unsatisfactory or they are underpaid or unemployed. These circumstances may make some people anxious, reliant on tobacco and alcohol as tranquilizers, resentful, frustrated, depressed, even violent.

In the United States unemployment and poverty not only prevent the sick from receiving health care but may cause illness. In this and other developed countries the unemployment and poverty are due to exploitation, the industrialist's use of his employees to make a profit. A large pool of potential workers allows the profiteers to purchase labor at a low price. Profiteers may not provide good health care since profit can be increased as expenditure on health is reduced. This economic system must be eliminated to provide health care for everyone and to be rid of the indignity of exploitation.

The concept of competition and free enterprise must be changed to one of cooperation and the community project. Patients, potential patients and health workers together must insist that their representatives control the local, regional and national organizations which decide the quantity and quality of health care.

However, a national system under such community control is unlikely to be successful as an isolated project because money will be misused in other services not controlled by providers and users of those services. All providers and users, producers and consumers, through their genuinely elected representatives, perhaps not of geographical areas but of trades, industries and professions, should manage the whole system of economic and social benefits which would include health care.

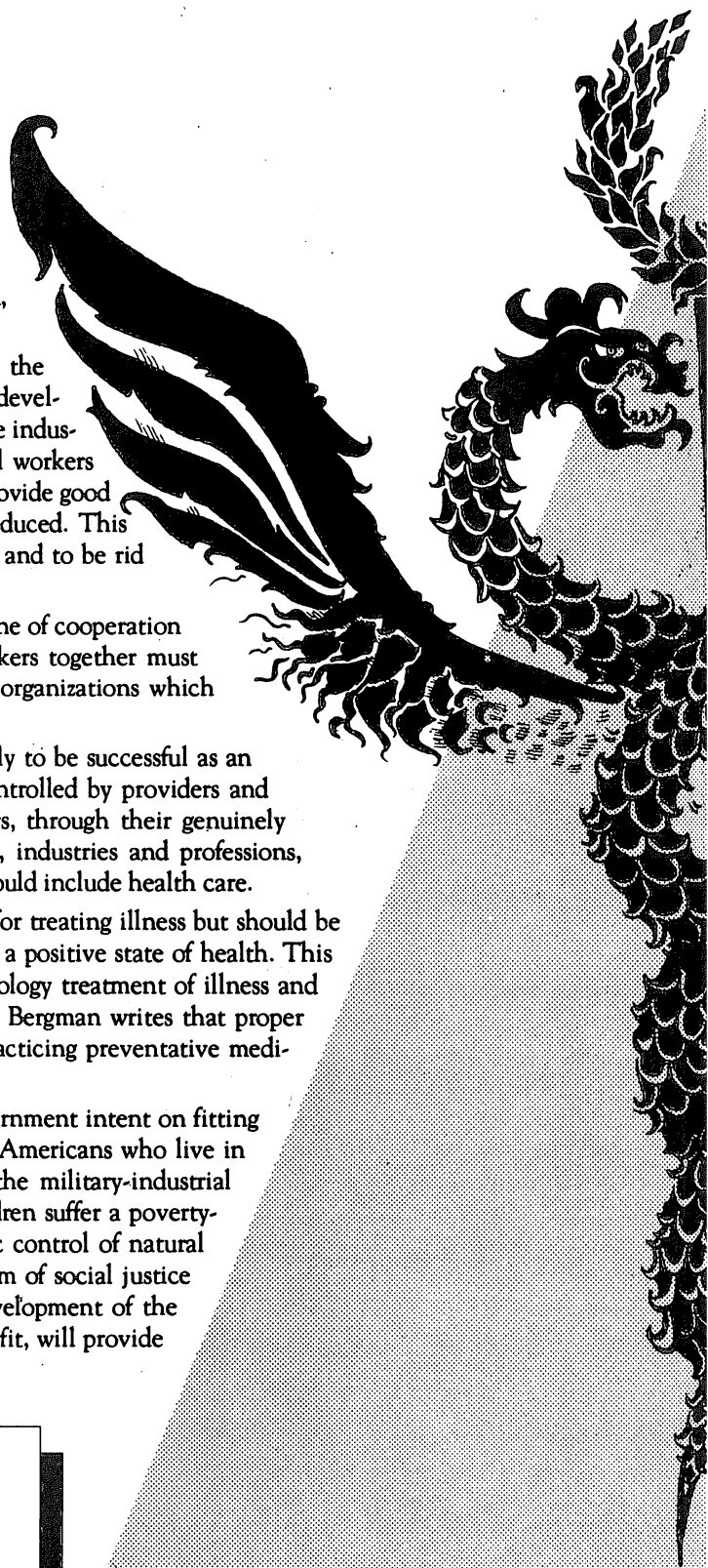
Workers in the health care system should not rely on remuneration for treating illness but should be full-time recompensed employees interested in "wellness," in maintaining a positive state of health. This attitude must be fostered by training health personnel less in high-technology treatment of illness and more in its prevention. In *In These Times*, December 25, 1991, Gregory Bergman writes that proper health care in the United States would mean primary-care physicians practicing preventative medicine.

The health care system must not be imposed on Americans by a government intent on fitting the service into present socio-economic system. Because the majority of Americans who live in complete or relative comfort have failed to resist the exploitation of the military-industrial complex a huge minority composed of millions of men, women and children suffer a poverty-stricken or marginal existence. The collective ownership and democratic control of natural resources, industries and services will permit the establishment of a system of social justice concerned with the maintenance of dignity, with the liberation and development of the human personality. The cooperation of men and women for need, not profit, will provide the environment of health.

"The health of all the people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and their powers as a state depend."

Disraeli

graphic by Kyle Pamson



Modern Medicine: A Philosophical Overview

by Margo Adair

Medical science has now developed such sophisticated equipment that due to its high cost, health care has had to become centralized—"health" is now produced in huge hospitals and the family doctor is nowhere to be found. Our health care system takes good care of medical science. Witness:

The pain, dysfunction, disability, and anguish resulting from technical medical intervention now rival the morbidity due to traffic and industrial accidents and even war-related activities, and makes the impact of medicine one of the most rapidly spreading epidemics of our time...only modern malnutrition injures more people than iatrogenic disease in its various manifestations. In the most narrow sense, iatrogenic disease includes only illnesses that would not have come about if sound and professionally recommended treatment had not been applied.

It has also been established that one out of every five patients admitted to a typical research hospital acquires an iatrogenic disease, sometimes trivial, usually requiring special treatment, and in one case in thirty leading to death. Half of these episodes result from complications of drug therapy; amazingly, one in ten comes from diagnostic procedures.

The biomedical model is firmly grounded in Cartesian thought. Descartes introduced the strict separation of mind and body, along with the idea that the body is a machine that can be understood completely in terms of the arrangement and functioning of its parts...

Following the Cartesian approach, medical science has limited itself to the attempt of understanding the biological mechanisms involved in an injury to various parts of the body. These mechanisms are studied from the point of view of cellular and molecular biology, leaving out all influences of nonbiological circumstances on biological processes.

The complexity of the body/mind is reduced to a series of mechanical parts. If it goes wrong, introduce a new ingredient or replace the part. When our bodies are ailing they are generally regarded by both ourselves and the doctors as malfunctioning machines to be taken into the shop to get fixed.

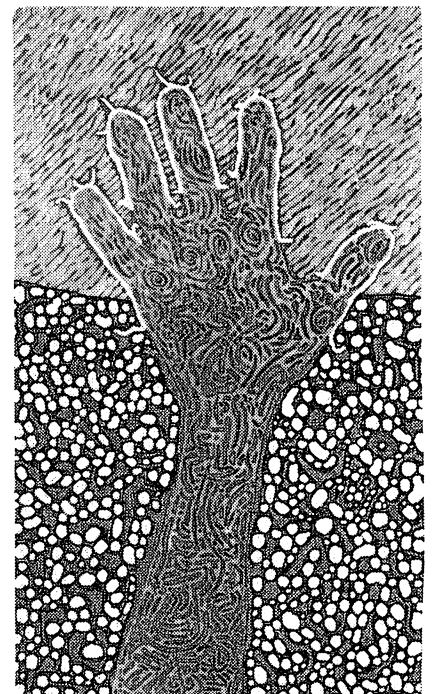
From Working Inside Out, 1984, Wingbrow Press, Bookpeople, 2929 5th Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

Positive Art

Visual artworks by
people with
AIDS/ARC/HIV

See pages 30-31

Philip Jauchem, "AIDS-
Hope," from the Positive
Art show



This November the FDA Intends to Take Away Your Freedom to Choose Natural Health Care!

With a bill passed by Congress in 1990, that will take affect in November, called the National Labeling and Education Act, the FDA has proposed regulations that will move towards making amino acids, medical herbs, and high potency vitamins available to you by prescription only. Another bill HR3642/S2135 would give the FDA the power to shut down a nutritional supplement company without the same due process of the law a cocaine dealer enjoys. And another, HR 1662, is waiting in the wings to expand on this miscarriage of justice and rob you of your basic freedom of information. Almost thirty years ago, the FDA proposed that Vita-

min C in potencies over 90 milligrams (less than two oranges) should be available by prescription only. This time the NLEA was passed before anyone knew what was happening. And the FDA is planning on using the NLEA, against the original wishes of Congress, to implement certain of its proposals and harass natural health care out of business.

The harassment has already started. On May 6, 1992 an FDA enforcement team raided the office of highly respected Kent, Washington Doctor, Jonathan Wright, MD who practices nutritional medicine. Gun toting agents broke the door down and treated the nurses, doctors and patients as if they were raiding a dangerous drug dealer. While they seemed to mainly target injectable B vitamins, they took everything in the office including his computers, patients records and various medical devices thereby shutting down the practice of Dr. Wright and three other doctors and leaving 1300 patients without care.

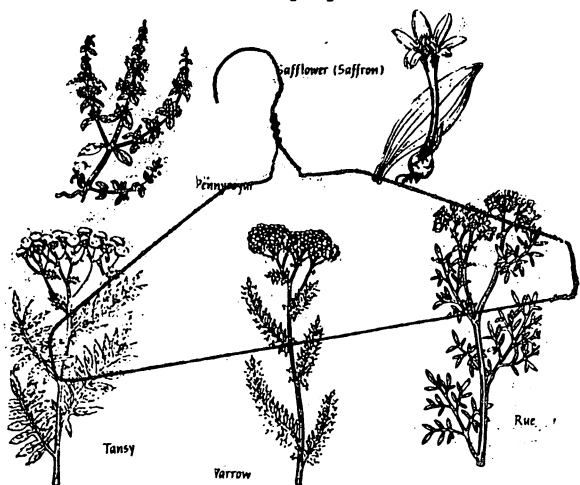
If you have a health problem that hasn't responded to mainstream medicine and you're seeing

results using herbal preparations, amino acids, or vitamins, will you be content to have to pay your doctor for a prescription (if its available). If a supplement manufacturer gives you information about the potential benefits of a new products or even that old faithful vitamin C, they could be shut down, their products embargoed and destroyed, and \$1 million fines levied that would bankrupt most businesses.

Support New Senate Bill S2835, the Health Freedom Act of 1992.

On May 12 Senator Orin Hatch introduced Senate bill S2835 to protect your right to use natural health care and it needs your support. Now more than ever your immediate action can help the effort to protect your right to choose natural health care and change the destructive course of the FDA. Now is the time to act.

Oppose the NLEA, and HR 3642/SB2135. It is crucial that you contact your Congress members. Look to the front of your phonebook for names and telephone numbers. Also—Get the word out! Tell your friends and write letters. You can get sample letters at your local health food store.



RU 486: Abortion and Then Some

RU 486 is a safe and efficient way to end a pregnancy. It can be used with over 96% efficiency up to the 63rd day of pregnancy.

After it is determined that a woman is pregnant, in her doctor's office or in a clinic she takes 600 mg of RU486. Two days later, she returns for an injection or pill of prostaglandin. Within another two to five days, she will have a vaginal blood flow, similar to a heavy menstrual period. She then returns to the doctor to make sure that the abortion is complete and the bleeding is controlled. There is no risk of infection nor need for anesthesia.

Because RU486 can be administered at any doctor's office, picketing, open harassment and violence become meaningless.

Recent Harris polls shows that 59% of all adults think RU 486 should be made available in the US but the French distributor, Roussel Uclaf openly admitted that they were giving in to anti-abortion rights pressure.

RU486 is also being tested to treat some types of:

- Breast cancer (see article on Breast Cancer in this issue page 20).
- Meningioma, a benign brain tumor which, however, is fatal if located in an inoperable part of the brain.
- Endometriosis, a leading cause of infertility. After successful tests on animals, clinical tests are being conducted right now.
- Cesarean section, as RU486 may be effective in inducing labor in a difficult del-

livery.

And, RU486 is being tested to treat glaucoma and ulcers, and has been proven to effectively treat some forms of Cushing's Syndrome, a rare adrenal tumor which most affects women in their 30s to 40s.

The Feminist Majority Foundation is in the middle of a massive campaign to bring RU486 into the country legally.

For more information and to get involved, please contact them at: PO Box 96780, Washington, DC 20077; (703) 522-2214.



Health Options

by Stephanie Georgieff ND

On July 18th, 1992, the eighth International Conference on AIDS commenced in Amsterdam. During the information-packed and highly emotional conference, the major theme was one of impending doom. In spite of the massive effort to prevent and treat the disease, researchers, physicians and activists alike stated that the pandemic is out of our control.

The usual call for more research money, more sensitivity, better treatments and definitions dominated the conference. An unusual break with tradition was a paper on the increasing incidence (between 5 and 10 percent) of HIV negative AIDS patients. A discovery at UC Irvine, on July 23rd of a "New AIDS-like Virus" sent the biomedical community into a frenzy. The discovery prompted a hastily organized conference in mid August to discuss the ramifications of a new, previously undetected virus causing AIDS.

Since the beginning of the AIDS pandemic, there has been a reluctance to respond as needed by the health community because of the populations initially infected. First it was homosexual males, then IV drug abusers, prostitutes and hemophiliacs. We have been informed that the spread to the heterosexual community is on the rise,

and that by the year 2000, more women than men will be infected and succumb to AIDS. If the incidence of AIDS cases who test HIV negative is on the rise as well, can we only look to the HIV as the cause of AIDS?

Fiscal year 1991 spent \$1.2 billion on researching AIDS, more than was spent on cancer. With all the fiscal and grassroots efforts to prevent contamination, we may learn that the HIV/AIDS connection is not the entire story, nor the sole avenue for research on prevention and cure.

In spite of the dramatic increases in the incidence of AIDS, percentage wise, many other diseases are more deadly to humans here in the States. Heart Disease is the number one killer in the USA, followed by cancer. Incidence of all types of cancers are on the dramatic increase, as well as immune disorders, upper respiratory infections, and allergies. We are presently experiencing dramatic increases in birth defects, and a 28% infertility rate among males. In 1991, \$700 billion was spent on health care in America. During this time, we also had more illnesses, more diagnosed cancer and more deaths from chronic illness than at any time in our history.

A trend often overlooked by health experts and statisticians is the fact that during the last 70 years, Americans are suf-

fering more from chronic, debilitating diseases, which are "new," than before our rapid development of technological health practices and medical protocols. It is interesting to note that during this same 70 years, over 200,000 synthetic chemicals have been unleashed into our air, land and water. In this country alone, we have endured over 390 nuclear tests above and below the ground, as well as exposure to several nuclear accidents. Large segment of our population endure constant exposure to low level radiation from power plants. Our overuse of fossil fuels has decreased the protective ozone level dramatically, most recently over North America. The overuse of pesticides has rendered much of our food and water sources toxic, and reduced the nutritive value of soil, lowering the mineral content of our food.

The immune system is the body's way of protecting itself from outside pathogens. An over-stressed system is less able to combat viral and bacterial assaults. Considering the ubiquitousness of environmental toxins, is it any wonder there is such a dramatic increase in illness all over the globe? Could it be that AIDS is not an infectious disease, evidenced by the increasing incidence of HIV-negative AIDS cases, but an environmentally-induced illness? Could populations who stress their already environmentally overloaded immune systems further with drugs and poor health habits push their physiology into total breakdown? And, finally, could it be, with the deepening environmental crisis, and increased toxic exposure through all that sustains life, we are all at risk for AIDS? Such considerations must be paramount in searching for the cure. Viewing AIDS as the body's response to a human-made toxic world instead of a sexually or blood transmitted disease may take the emotional taboo away from the problem, and force us to look at what we are really doing to the Earth. If we are all at risk, regardless of behaviors, we must stop judging those who are sick. The cure for AIDS may lie in cleaning up the planet, prevention may consist of creating a sustainable culture filled with ecological wisdom. If human behavior towards the planet is the

continued on page 59

National Health Contacts

ODPHP National Health Information Center

PO Box 1133 Washington DC 20013-1133 800-336-4797, 301-565-4167

Provides referrals to health organizations including those concerned with minorities.

Office of Minority Health Resource Center

PO Box 37337 Washington DC 20013-7337 800-444-MHRC. Answers ques-

tions from consumers and professionals on minority health issues, risk factors, resources and programs.

Cancer Prevention Awareness Program

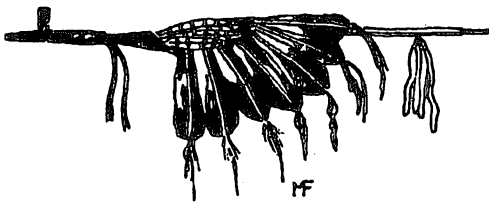
Office of Cancer Communications
National Cancer Institute. Building 31
Room 10A24, Bethesda MD 20892 301-496-5583

Develops educational materials on prevention and provides information and resources.

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Office of Research Reporting
Building 31 Room 2A-32 9000 Rockville
Pike Bethesda MD 20829 301-496-5133
Distributes consumer material on a variety of topics including prenatal care, pregnancy and childbirth.





Resources for 500 Years of Resistance and Dignity

Sovereign Indian Nations Demand a Voting Seat in the United Nations

On October 12, 1992, Native American Solidarity Day, Indian People from throughout the Western Hemisphere and their supporters will assemble at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza at the United Nations Building in New York City, to condemn 500 Years of genocide, and to demand a voting seat for Indigenous People in the United Nations General Assembly.

The League of Indigenous Sovereign Nations of the Western Hemisphere (LISN) is raising long overdue demands of sovereignty and self-determination for millions of Indian people threatened by the wanton theft of their sacred lands by resource-hungry multinational corporations.

LISN was established in May 1991 on Piscataway Nation land, when native people came from throughout the western hemisphere to draft a preliminary Declaration of Principles. Since then, there have been additional LISN gatherings at Rosebud, Lakota Nation and Kahnawake, Mohawk Nation, generating great enthusiasm. Further LISN conferences are planned in the United States and Canada, and a week-long gathering is planned in New York City to coincide with the October rally.

Non-native sisters and brothers are encouraged to show support for Native American self-determination by assisting LISN in organizing the October 12, 1992 demonstration. If you can assist with time or contributions, contact LISN, c/o Piscataway Indian Nation, PO Box 312, Port Tobacco, MD 20677, (301) 735-5555. Donations are tax-deductible by request.

Excerpted from the Midatlantic Indian Alliance newsletter, 3912 Longfellow Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781.

top graphic by Martha Fox

The summer 1991 issue of *GroundWork* contained a three-page resource guide around the 500 Years of Resistance and Dignity Campaign. Reprints are available from *GroundWork* for \$2.

In addition, we want to mention these resources:

- **SAICC Newsletter.** *GroundWork* relies on the South and MesoAmerican Information center (SAICC) Newsletter as a major source of information on indigenous struggles in the western hemisphere. Each issue carries twenty or more stories on specific events and organizing, reports on conferences, photos and indigenous graphics.

SAICC memberships are available for \$15 individual, \$25 organization, which includes the SAICC Newsletter.

- **1492-1992: New Visions, New Alliances.** This organizing book provides insights into the Europe from which Columbus launched his voyages, a more realistic

portrayal of North American history following the European invasion, and examples of the battles Native Americans must still fight today.

Published by the National Mobilization for Survival. 30pp. Copies are \$4 each, \$2.50 for 15 or more. Order from Jennifer Viereck, PO Box 13, Boulder Creek CA 95006.

- **Columbus Didn't Discover Us.** This video, excerpts from which were broadcast nationally over PBS, features interviews with indigenous activists from North, South and Central America, filmed at the First Continental Congress of Indigenous Peoples, held in Ecuador in July 1990 [see *GroundWork/Green Letter*, fall 1990].



Columbus Didn't Discover Us was produced in cooperation with several Indigenous peoples' groups. This 24-minute video is available in English and Spanish versions, and can be purchased (\$40) or rented (\$20). Bulk discount available, as well as discounts for indigenous groups.

Contact Turning Tide Productions, PO Box 864, Wendell, MA 01379, (508) 544-8313.

- **How to '92.** This 32-page manual contains a variety of background and organizing articles, such as an essay on linkages to contemporary issues such as sexism and racism; articles on media activism, education and community events; cultural projects like guerrilla actions, murals, and public art; and an essay on demonstration tactics.

How to '92 is available for \$2 from Alliance for Cultural Democracy, PO Box 7591, Minneapolis, MN 55407, (612) 724-6795.



Natives Americans and Health

Disparity between Indian and all races in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area. (Bay Area statistics are very close to national averages; therefore, national statistics are equal to if not greater than those listed.)

Based on 1980 data:

- Alcoholism: 384% greater
- Tuberculosis: 260% greater
- Accidents: 132% greater
- Diabetes mellitus: 117% greater
- Homicide: 73% greater
- Pneumonia and influenza: 51% greater

For more information, contact: The Native American Health Center, Oakland, CA

Abenaki Land Rights Threatened by Vermont Courts

On June 12, 1992, the Vermont Supreme Court overturned a 1989 ruling that upheld Abenaki aboriginal title and rights to the part of Abenaki ancestral land known as northwestern Vermont. It is a signal and an alibi for a new round of State harassment of the Abenaki Nation.

The Abenaki People never gave up their lands to European colonizers by treaty, sale or any other means. The colonists moved in gradually and when they had enough military force, they burned Abenaki villages and murdered entire families. Abenaki land has now been occupied by the State for two hundred years.

The state of Vermont is still trying to destroy Abenaki resistance today. Although U.S. federal law makes such actions against a sovereign Indian Nation by a state illegal, the State Supreme Court has even denied that the Abenaki People have aboriginal title to their own land.

According to the U.S. Constitution, the federal government alone has power to regulate commerce and otherwise negotiate with a sovereign Indian Nation. Only direct negotiation between the Abenaki Nation and the U.S. government could change the aboriginal title relationship.

Despite this, the Vermont Supreme Court claims that the aboriginal title of the Abenaki Nation was extinguished "by the increased weight of history." The decision states that the Abenaki People's rights do not matter any more because the forces of occupation controlled the area.

Abenaki Activists Prosecuted

Within days of the decision, the state began to prosecute members of the Abenaki Nation for exercising their aboriginal rights to fish, hunt, and travel. The state immediately began to prosecute over fifty defendants. The state's claim that Abenaki defendants will get a fair trial is a joke. In a recent "trial" on a charge of illegal fishing an Abenaki defendant was denied his right to a jury of his peers (there was not a single Abenaki on the jury); denied his right to counsel from the Tribal Judge; and not allowed to present evidence or call

witnesses for his aboriginal rights defense (which the judge ruled "irrelevant".)

The Vermont Supreme Court ruling is an excuse for the police and judicial system to go after every Abenaki person who exercises his or her aboriginal rights on Abenaki land. Harassment and violence by police have drastically increased in the past few months. Selective prosecution targets specific organizers and their families. The state is trying to wear down resistance by attacking from all sides.

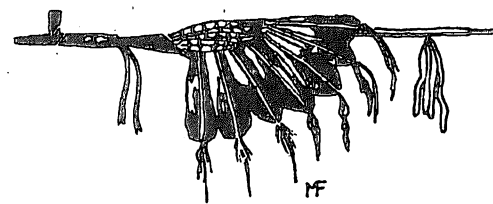
Support Needed

We need your support. Although the state has no jurisdiction to prosecute them, Abenaki defendants are facing hundreds of charges. Some people are facing years in jail due to selective prosecution. We are asking you to help in two ways. First, write letters to:

- Vermont Supreme Court, 111 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05602
- Governor Howard Dean,
109 State St.,
Montpelier, VT
05602
- Governor's
Commission
on Native
American
Affairs, 17
Grand Ave.,
Swanton,
VT 05488

Second, please send as much as you can for the defense fund. We must have money for transportation, transcripts, lawyers, xeroxing, postage, etc, to defend Abenaki aboriginal title, Abenaki aboriginal rights, and Abenaki People.

Excerpted from a statement by Chief Homer W. St. Francis & Chief Tribal Judge Michael Delaney. Contact the Sovereign Nation of the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi, PO Box 276, Missisquoi 05488, (802) 868-7146, fax (802) 868-5118.



Lower Brule Update

Rad-Waste Dump Threatened

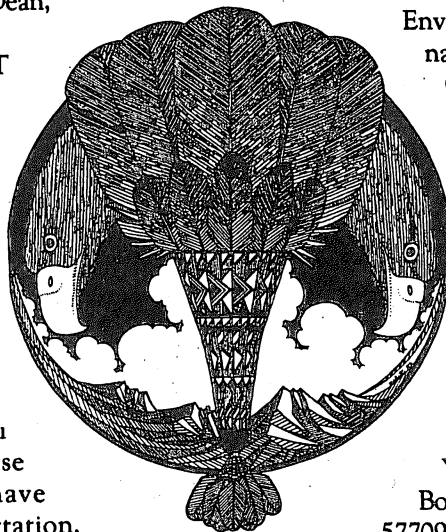
The doors to the Golden Buffalo Casino [see last issue, pg. 15] were barely opened when Tribal Chairman Michael Jandreau announced that he had applied for a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to conduct a feasibility study for the installation of a high level radioactive waste dump on the Lower Brule Reservation. The DOE has made grants available to tribes and governments in impoverished areas.

A group of concerned citizens acted quickly to form the People for Mother Earth Coalition. Environmental groups from Pine Ridge and Rose Bud Reservations have offered their support, and joined the People for Mother Earth Coalition for a demonstration in May.

Native Americans for a Clean Environment (NACE), with national headquarters in Oklahoma, have also joined the coalition in opposition to the high level radioactive waste dump.

For more information, contact: Ellen Wright, People for Mother Earth Coalition, PO Box 51, Lower Brule, SD 57548. Excerpted from Yuwitaya Lakota, PO Box 3606, Rapid City, SD 57709, (605) 341-8774.

graphic by Jack Malotte



Akwe:kon Press

Akwe:kon Press offers a variety of works by and about Native Americans. Akwe:kon Journal is \$15/year. Catalogue of books available. Write Akwe:kon Press 400 Caldwell Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca NY 14853.



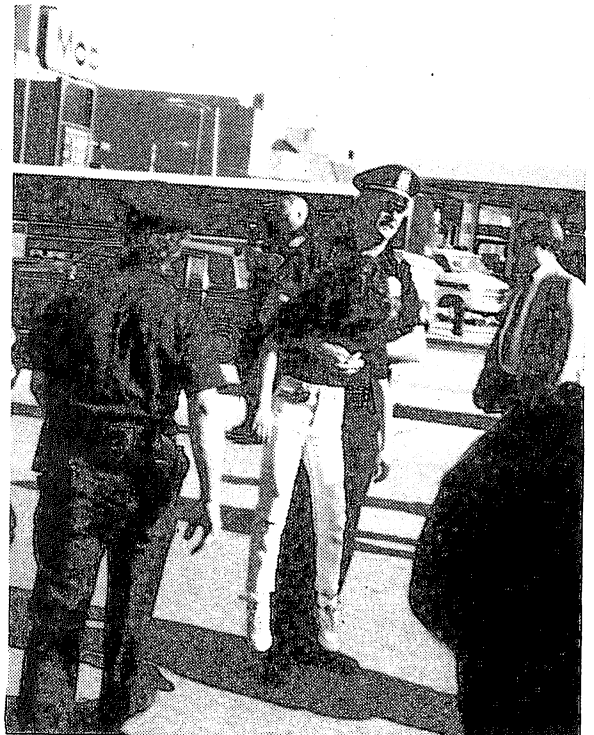
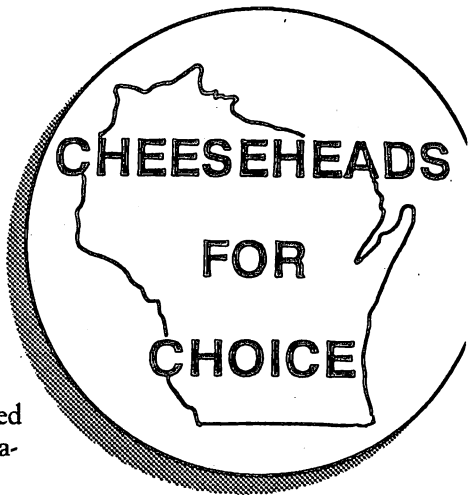
Milwaukee Stands Up

by Judy Blochowiak

1992 has been a year of abortion clinic attacks and defense. Clinics nationwide have been besieged by Operation Rescue, the Lambs of Christ, Missionaries to the Preborn and Youth for America in their quest to "save the babies." Announcements of visits to Wichita, Buffalo, Milwaukee and Baton Rouge forced abortion rights activists to get organized—quick.

I was visiting my family in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for three weeks in which the Missionaries to the Preborn and Youth for America hit local clinics. Many think of Milwaukee as a conservative city known for its beer drinkers, and the state for its quality cheese products. However, when taking a closer look at the city and its inhabitants one finds good, down-home people with a willingness to arise at 4:30am to defend clinics before going to work for the day. Many had never been called to activism before. However, many remember the days when abortion was not legal. Thus sleeping late during June and July of 1992, while clinics were hit 3-4 days a week, was not an option.

The first day of "hit week," over 350 pro-choice activists showed up to be trained in the art of clinic defense, an art that has been passed down from long-



Photos

Upper left: defenders outside the Metropolitan Medical Services building

Middle left: clinic defenders sign in, six o'clock a.m.

Lower left: a Youth for America protester is carried away by police

Upper right: pro-choice clinic defense line

Middle right: Missionaries to the Preborn

Lower right: anti-choice arrestees, many of them children from Youth for America

Photos by Judy Blochowiak

for Women's Rights



time nonviolent civil disobedience and has been adapted to clinic defense. The defense of abortion clinics has gone from California to Kansas to New York and was now being implemented in Wisconsin. Learning the correct way to support your neighbor, to link arms, and tactics of dealing with anti-choicers were eagerly learned by these barely-awake Milwaukeeans in the 50 degree weather. The Missionaries failed to show up that first day, but Milwaukee was one step closer to being ready for the Missionaries and Youth for America.

Pro- and Anti-Choice Activists

Many Americans hold stereotypes of pro-choice activists. Images of young, white females in their 20's, staunch feminists, lesbians and gay men come to mind. However, in many ways Milwaukee defies these stereotypes. Looking at the clinic line one would see the many faces of mid-America. There were young women and men in their 20's, those who do not know the reality of back alley abortions and then there were those all too familiar with that reality. Many older adults, some bringing their teenage children, came out to protect their clinics. There were teachers, lawyers, business women and men, school counselors and grandparents all together in one line with one goal: keeping the clinics open.

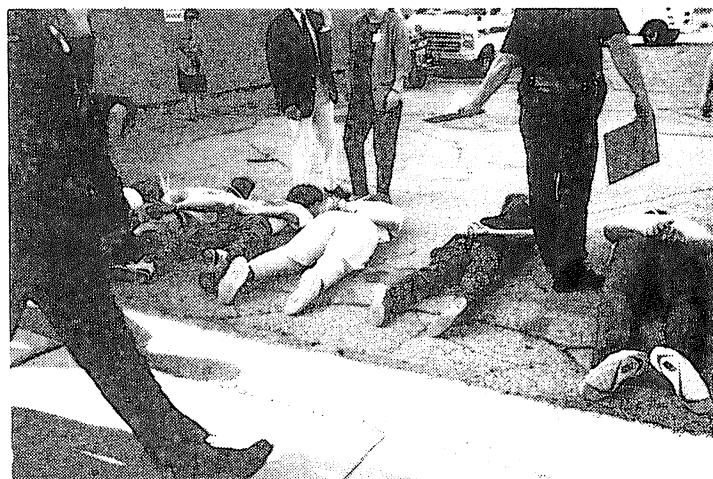
The Missionaries to the Preborn are a faction of the notorious Operation Rescue. They gather "troops" from out of state and by holding prayer services within Wisconsin, they form a group of adults and children willing to risk arrest or to wear down clinic defenders by incessant praying and singing.

Youth for America is comprised of youth from various parts of the United States who are handed over to guardians for the summer and proceed to move from city to city to "save the babies." A well-trained group of 100 or more children aged 8-16, they were willing to risk repeated arrest (or their parents were willing to subject them to repeated arrest). These children would on command charge police lines, crawl across busy streets and throw themselves before clinic doors. Children would, based on age, not be charged fines or be held overnight in jail, and would call out, "Abuse! He's hurting me!" when barely touched by pro-choice activists. Youth for America was the strong force behind clinic attacks as they scouted out the area looking for weak spots and dramatically praying in front of defense lines.

Clinic Defense and the Media

Media coverage of clinic attacks was less than fair in Milwaukee. As more clinics were hit, the media leaned farther and farther to the right. Coverage consisted of arrests (an interesting sight to see police officers carrying limp ten-year-olds to police vans—reminiscent of our parents carrying us to bed as children after we fell asleep in the car on the way home from a visit to the relatives) and views of court room proceedings which included the anti-choice DA's office unwilling to prosecute those who violated the court order banning repeated arrestees from the clinic site. The one-sided coverage both enraged the pro-choice community and

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Breast Cancer

Taking Detection Into Our Own Hands

Over the past few years many stories about breast cancer have appeared in all forms of media. This media barrage has heightened women's knowledge and awareness so that most now know that breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among women and that 1 in 10 will develop this disease in her lifetime. This year in the US alone 145,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 43,000 will die from it.

Despite all of this coverage few women have been informed how they can take the early detection of this disease into their own hands-literally- with Self Breast Examinations. Few also know that 90% of breast lumps are discovered by women themselves. Women who practice SBE regularly can detect breast disease at an earlier stage. Unfortunately, studies show that only 2/3 of women practice SBE at least once a year, only 1/3 of women practice SBE monthly, and only 1/2 of these women do self breast exam correctly.

All women after the age of 20, even if they have had a hysterectomy or are post-menopausal should do self breast exams. The best time to do SBE is the first five days after your menstrual cycle ends. If you are not having a cycle then choose one time each month that can be designated as your SBE day. If you have had a hysterectomy and are taking hormones, do the self breast exam the day you begin to take your hormones each month.

Self Breast Exam- The Process

To begin the process start with your arms straight down at your sides and look at your breasts in the mirror. Then raise your hands above your head, put your hands together and squeeze, lastly place your hands on your hips and press. You are looking for any changes in the shape or roundness of your breasts, any swelling or puckering in your breasts, or pulling to the side in your nipple.

Next, either while lying down or in the shower: place one arm above your head, and with your other hand feel deep into your armpit for any lumps. Then, with

your fingers flat, using the inside of your fingers, not the tips, press gently using small circular motions and circle around your entire breast, feeling for any lumps or areas of hardness. Keep circling around breast in smaller circles until you are feeling under your nipple. Do not pat your breast, keep fingers on the breast throughout this part of the check. Lifting can cause you to miss small hard to feel lumps. Make sure to feel the breast tissue, including your nipple. Finally squeeze your nipple gently to check for discharge. If you do find a lump or experience discharge see a doctor or other such health care provider, so that they can diagnose and recommend treatment if any is necessary.

The American Cancer Association recommends a baseline mammogram, or breast x-ray at age 35-40 and then annual mammograms after age 50. Mammography is a sensitive test for cancers that may be too small to find during a physical exam.

For more information call or write: Women's Cancer Resource Center, PO Box 11235 Oakland CA 94610, 510-548-WCRC



Beyond Breast Cancer: A
Healing Journey
October 24 & 25 1992

The Breast Cancer Action group, a Vermont non-profit organization dedicated to the eradication of breast cancer is sponsoring a two day conference which will address the psycho-social issues raised by breast cancer for patients, survivors, their partners and providers. It will be held at the Champlain College Hauke Family Campus Center.

The needs of the body mind and spirit will be the subject of presentations, workshop sessions and focus groups. The focus groups will be professionally facilitated and have been included to offer participants support and continuity throughout the two days. Delicious well balanced vegetarian lunches and snacks that are low in fats and sweeteners will be provided.

Basic registration fee which includes conference materials and lunches and snacks is \$60.00 for patients, survivors and their partners and is \$90.00 for providers, institutions and corporations.

For registration forms and information call the Bennington Chapter of Breast Cancer Action Group 802-447-0543 or send email to BCAGVT.

The following increase a woman's chance of getting breast cancer:

1. Not bearing children or bearing one after the age of thirty increases a woman's risk of developing cancer of the breasts, ovaries and uterus. Because lesbians bear fewer children than the average, they suffer a greater risk of developing these cancers.
2. Mother, sister or daughter with breast cancer; especially if in both breasts or if they were under 50 when it happened.
3. No history of pregnancy carried to deliver, or giving birth to your first child after age 30.
4. Early onset of menstrual periods or late menopause; onset of menstrual periods after age 16 and menopause before age 45 are associated with a lower risk.
5. Having had breast cancer in the opposite breast-10% develop a tumor in the opposite breast.
6. High fat diets

Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and People with AIDS

Second March on Washington Planned for April 1993

Gays, lesbians, bisexuals, people dealing with AIDS, and their supporters will converge on the nation's capital for a massive march and rally in April, 1993.

Like the first March on Washington

Civil Disobedience Action to Follow March on Washington

On October 13, 1987, two days after the March on Washington, over 800 people were arrested at the Supreme Court demanding their rights as lesbians, gays, bisexuals and people with AIDS.

A second mass civil disobedience action is planned for April 26, 1993. By October 1992, the Civil Disobedience Committee must decide on a target. We want input by October 3 from activists nationwide. Three sites are under consideration:

- The Capitol Building
- The White House
- All 3 branches of Federal Government

Some other factors to consider:

- The mass CD on April 26 must be a relatively choreographed event so that new activists feel comfortable and safe risking arrest for the first time. But that certainly doesn't mean other groups can't do more radical and disruptive actions, hint hint... If you can, keep us informed so we can help your action not conflict with another. If we can help, let us know.

- The more people who come to Washington having already had CD preparation, the better. Can your group do one or more CD trainings before next April?

- The March on Washington can't give us money without losing its non-profit status, so we need \$\$\$ specifically for the CD Committee. Can you help?

One final request: Get involved! Please contact a local committee, or contact Rebecca Hensler at 500 Oak St. #7, San Francisco CA 94102, 415-861-8437.

in 1987, next year's march will include a large number of related cultural and political events, culminating in a march and rally on Sunday, April 25.

Lobbying efforts will take place on April 22-23, with thousands of activists pressing Congress to adopt civil rights legislation.

A mass wedding is also planned for the weekend, conducted by the Reverend Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Church. The wedding will be a spiritual and civil rights event celebrating the union of lesbian, gay and bisexual couples, recognizing them as loving and healthy relationships.

For more information, including travel and hotel information, contact the March on Washington, 800-832-2889.



The "March on Washington" float, with a condom being fitted over the Washington Monument, at San Francisco's Gay Pride Day parade. Photo by Jane Cleland.



When Seattle's school board balked at distribution of condoms and other safe-sex items in public schools, ACT UP Seattle's Youth Caucus produced a pamphlet called "How to Fuck Safely" and distributed it with safe-sex packets at local schools. ACT UP, 1206 E. Pike #814, Seattle 98122. Photo by Dana Schuerholz/Impact Visuals.



October "500 Years"

The broadest alliance ever formed for a Test Site event has come together for the October "Healing Global Wounds" events: Western Shoshone and Southern Paiute activists, downwinders and radiation survivors, Nevada Desert Experience, and a diversity of peace, justice and environmental groups. It has also involved the Global Anti-Nuclear Alliance network: activists from Kazakhstan, Russia, Japan and Europe have attended planning meetings.

Healing Global Wounds

Schedule for October 1992

Friday, October 2: Welcoming Continental Walkers. Walk Across America for Mother Earth and the European Peace Pilgrimage began walking from the east coast February 1st, and will arrive in Nevada for the October events. [see last issue]

Saturday-Sunday, October 3-4: Indigenous People's Forum, including testimony and presentations of indigenous struggles. Major section on health effects of radiation, workshops, cultural celebration and strategy discussions. At University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Monday, October 5: Witness at the Department of Energy, at the National Operations Office in Las Vegas. Findings from weekend forum will be made public at a press conference. Dignified nonviolent direct action will compliment the public statements.

Monday-Thursday, October 5-8: Walk to the Nevada Test Site. Join Walk Across America and European Peace Pilgrimage for the final 65 miles of their continental walk, from Las Vegas to the Test Site.

Thursday-Friday, October 8-9: Test Site Encampment. Workshops, cultural and musical events and nonviolent direct action are planned throughout the encampment from October 8-12.

Saturday, October 10: All-Nations Healing Ceremony. Spiritual leaders from many nations will lead

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*Photos by Lynda Simpson,
design by George Franklin*



Actions at Nevada Test Site



"The Nevada Test Site was created illegally in 1951 by an executive order of President Truman, in violation of Shoshone land rights and the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley. We never agreed to give our land to the United States. This is Shoshone land. Its use by the United States for nuclear testing is a blatant violation of law and of our civil and property rights. We cannot help but see that the United States and other nuclear powers are testing their most destructive weapons on other people's lands. We have a map of the world showing how all atomic and nuclear tests have been conducted on the territory of native peoples who cannot prevent the larger and more powerful nations from doing this to them."

Raymond Yowell, Chief, Western Shoshone National Council

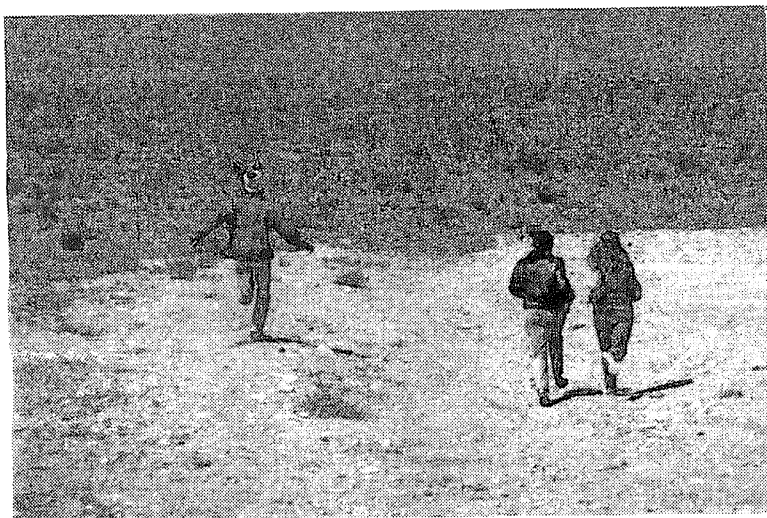
Peace Walk, Blockades Highlight April Hundredth Monkey Action

•from upper left:

- Several hundred protesters marched 60 miles from the Department of Energy offices in Las Vegas to the Nevada Test Site.
- Near the end of the Peace Walk, dozens of people blockaded the highway near the Test Site. Here, police move in for arrests.
- Shoshone Elder Corbin Harney joins a Franciscan priest from the Nevada Desert Experience to open a ceremony at the Test Site on Earth Day/Easter Sunday.
- Activists called on the U.S. government to join France and the former Soviet Union in an immediate moratorium on testing.

•from upper right:

- Shoshone Elder Corbin Harney explains how nuclear testing in Nevada violates the 1863 Ruby Valley Treaty, which recognizes the land as the Shoshone's. Moments later, he was arrested for trespassing.
- Protesters blockaded and trespassed at the front gate of the Test Site on Earth Day morning.
- One of several hundred people arrested at the Test Site in April.
- Demonstrators elude police near front gate and race onto the Test Site.





"Because of opposition to LLRW dumps, there is some pressure

By Victoria Woodard

This is a watershed time for the nuclear power industry. While new nuclear reactors are being planned, old ones must be decommissioned—and the nuclear waste issue remains the industry's Achilles heel. With concerted grassroots opposition to nuclear power and radioactive waste dumps, we could retire the nuclear industry. This article focuses on waste dumps.

The federal government has pursued several dubious tactics to solve the waste problem. In the early 80's Congress tried to shift liability for Low Level Radioactive Waste [LLRW] onto the states, but in June 1992 the Supreme Court declared that unconstitutional.

Congress scheduled the 3 currently existing LLRW dumps to close January 1, 1993. Beatty, Nevada will close on schedule. After that, Richland, Washington will only accept waste from states in the Northwest and Rocky Mountain Compact. Barnwell, South Carolina has decided to stay open another 18 months.

While they were under pressure to find somewhere to send LLRW by January 1993 (or accept liability for it if they had no dump by January 1996), some states and compacts of states made plans to open dumps. In each case, a citizens group formed to oppose the dump.

In New York, which led the fight, activists peacefully surrounded every delegation that tried to characterize a site (do research on groundwater and geological formations). New York is the state that won the Supreme Court ruling.

After Barnwell, South Carolina closes, North Carolina will be host state for the Southeast Compact. One-third of the nation's LLRW will go there. North Carolina is currently characterizing the site it has chosen.

Midwest Compact

Illinois was to host the dump for the Midwest Compact, but it pulled out when other compact states refused to share li-

bility. Sierra Club officers and other Illinois environmentalists lobbied early in the process for a "good" dump. They got more stringent leak requirements than the Nuclear Regulatory Commission [NRC] allows—and the only other state that will use the dump (Kentucky) to share liability. Subsequently, Illinois citizens groups have worked to stop the dump altogether.

Ohio is now host state for the Mid-

west Compact. It hasn't yet announced a site or a process for choosing one. The Ohio state government is pro-dump, and citizens are mobilizing. Nebraska is host state for the Central Compact. Its targeted site is islands in a marshland.

Citizens Fight Low Level Radiation Dumps Not In Anyone's Back Yard

west Compact. It hasn't yet announced a site or a process for choosing one. The Ohio state government is pro-dump, and citizens are mobilizing. Nebraska is host state for the Central Compact. Its targeted site is islands in a marshland.

Michigan insisted that its very strict wetlands laws be upheld if it was to be a host state; as a result, its compact threw it out. Currently, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Texas and Vermont do not belong to compacts; that means they can refuse to accept LLRW from other states. Some of them are negotiating to send LLRW to Texas or California, where the process of dump licensing is fairly far along. Others are planning dumps of their own.

After citizens groups successfully defeated the first two sites chosen in Texas, the state changed its process. Texas has purchased a huge ranch on which to site a dump, and now requires no characterization before licensing.

Southwest Compact

California, host state for the Southwest Compact, plans to site a LLRW dump in Ward Valley in the Mojave Desert

above Needles. The NRC forbids lining LLRW disposal sites, so the waste will be deposited in unlined trenches. Opponents fear that radiation will leak and contaminate groundwater or the Colorado River, which is 20 miles away and a major source of drinking water for Los Angeles and San Diego, as well as irrigation water for both Native American and commercial farmers. Opponents of the California dump have produced a video to educate the public; won the right to have an adjudicatory hearing on the dump; and are pushing legislation through the California state legisla-

ture to recycle tritium (the major radio nuclide to be dumped there) and ameliorate California's liability for the site.

All proposed LLRW dumps will have 30 year lifespans. Then federal law requires each host state to monitor the dump for an additional 70 years. After that no one is responsible. Plutonium in the sites (with a half-life of 24,000 years) will be unmonitored and unsafe for 250,000 to 500,000 years.

Medical waste

The public thinks only medical waste will go into LLRW dumps. In California, the radioactive waste generators' lobbying group (Cal Rad Forum) fuels this misconception by having its medical profession members speak on behalf of the Ward Valley dump. However, according to the NRC, the Department of Energy [DOE], and California Department of Health Services [DHS], utilities everywhere are the principal generators of LLRW, in terms of both volume and radioactivity. LLRW can include whole disassembled nuclear power plants, except for fuel rods.

U.S. Ecology, the company that runs

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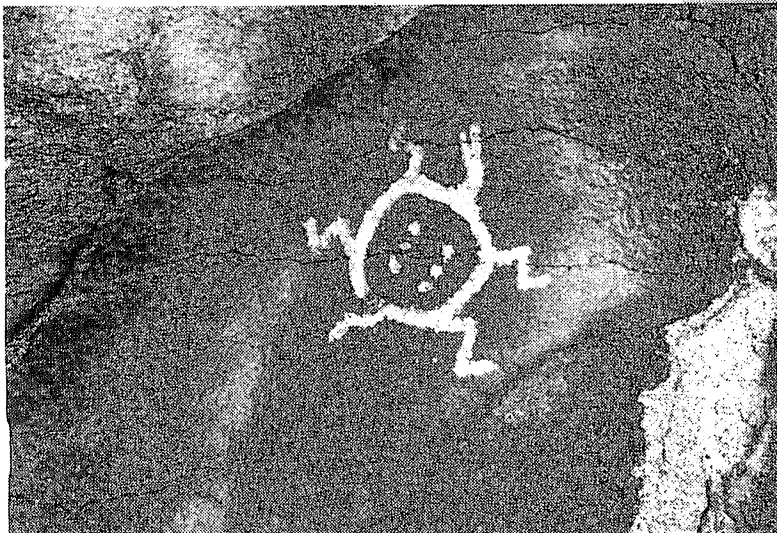
in Congress to pick one or two sites and send all waste there.”



How You Can Help

News breaks every week on the LLRW issue. For updated information, contact:

- Nuclear Information & Research Service, in Washington DC 202-328-0002
- Don't Waste US, in Takoma Park, MD 301-589-5892
- Don't Waste New York, in South Plymouth NY 607-863-3872
- Don't Waste California (Abalone Alliance), in San Francisco 415-861-0592
- To order the video on Ward Valley, contact Pamela Dake at 415-868-1195
- And follow the organizing in future issues of GroundWork



Photos, clockwise from top:

- U.S. Ecology sign, Ward Valley, California, by Steve Willis
- March in Taylor, New York march against proposed LLRW site, from The Cortland Standard
- Native American Spirit Run near the Ward Valley site, by Steve Willis
- Petroglyph of the ubiquitous desert turtles in Ward Valley. The turtles are among the many endangered animals and plants in the immediate area. By Rachel Johnson



Health, Environmental and Economic Concerns

Community Groups Assail Computer Industry

The Campaign for Responsible Technology (CRT) and the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice have initiated a community-based effort to assess the impact of the chip industry in six communities. Organizers from San Jose, Phoenix, Albuquerque, Austin and Colorado met last May to finalize plans for a coordinated summer-long assessment and community education effort.

In response to increased global competition, chip industry executives are demanding increased government intervention, tax relief, and exemption from Federal and state regulations. Some high-tech business leaders and many politicians are also calling for government intervention to create industry-led, business-government partnerships—like SEMATECH—to help improve America's high tech competitiveness.

SEMATECH is a nonprofit consortium of 11 semiconductor manufacturers based in Austin, Texas. Half of its \$200 million annual budget comes from member companies. The other half is paid for by taxpayers through the Department of Defense.

CRT has sought to make SEMATECH address environmental, occupational health, labor and economic development concerns facing semiconductor workers and affected communities.

A much broader grassroots campaign focused on the entire semiconductor industry is a logical next step to CRT's effort to make SEMATECH more responsive to community, environmental and workers' needs. This initiative is based on an understanding of the unprecedented public in-

vestment by U.S. taxpayers in the semiconductor industry and its key role in future U.S. industrial development.

In this context, CRT—in collaboration with the Southwest Network for Environmental and Eco-

—nomic Justice—has begun a grassroots challenge to the accepted structure and practices of the semiconductor industry.

With four community-based organizations, we will begin to formulate our own program for semiconductor industry revitalization that hinges on increased worker and community participation in in-

dustry affairs.

The semiconductor industry crisis is real. But the shallow solutions advocated by industry and government short-change taxpayers, semiconductor employees and the communities where facilities are located.

If pressing national needs are really going to be addressed by the development of high technology, then industrial policies like SEMATECH must be guided by a democratic process.

As the chip industry increasingly seeks more cooperation between firms and stepped-up government coordination and financial support, we are entitled to assert our vision of how chips will be made, who will produce them, and what they will be used for.

For more information, contact: The Campaign for Responsible Technology, 408 Highland Ave, Somerville MA 02144, (617) 391-3866, or the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice, 211-10th St SW, Albuquerque NM 87102, (505) 242-0416.



500 Years of Chicano History in Pictures

A panoramic view of Chicano History, from the coming of Europeans to recent land and labor struggles.

SouthWest Organizing Project, which published this book, is a multi-racial, multi-issue community organization

working for racial and gender equality and social and economic justice.

For more information, contact SWOP, 211 10th Street SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102; (505) 247-8832





Earth First! Round River Rendezvous

by Karen Pickett

"Campers With A Cause," said the headline in the Denver Sunday Post over the story of the Round River rendezvous, the annual Earth First! gathering. The first week in July on the Piedra River in southwestern Colorado, 350 or so campers "with a cause" gathered to discuss, debate, strategize — many causes and campaigns, all with the two-fold bottom line: the preservation of biodiversity and a no-compromise approach to that end.

Earth First!ers from all over the country had cause to celebrate as well. Not that we were tasting victory in our defense lines in this war being waged against the earth. Not by a long shot. But it felt like the time had come to re-seize the power of this often outrageous, always vocal radical environmental fringe movement; to regain our effectiveness.

With all the controversy and difficult times that have been swirling around this 12-year-old movement, not all meetings have been celebratory in nature or smooth in operation. In the past several years, Earth First! activists have survived an attempted assassination by a bomber, been

arrested for felonies, hit with SLAPP suits ("Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation," lawsuits by corporations and government against activists.), infiltrated and disrupted by an FBI COINTELPRO operation, have weathered internal differences that included one of the founders leaving the fold noisily, and the entire EF! newspaper staff quitting en masse, taking their computers with them.

But the Earth First! Journal has relocated (to Missoula, Montana), the disgruntled founder has started his own publication, and this year's Rendezvous had an air of healing and getting back to the business at hand — that is, defending the remaining biodiversity on this planet that we all share.

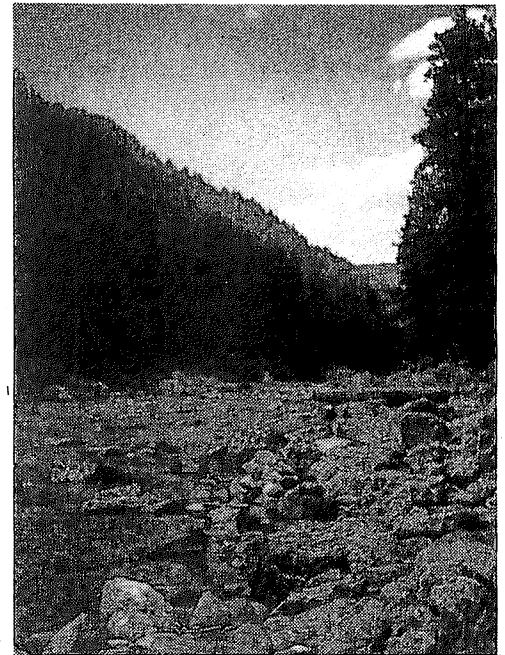
Not that problems have gone away. Hardly. The bombing of Judi Bari is still unsolved (and largely uninvestigated) two years later, and she remains permanently crippled. Two bright and vital activists are serving federal prison sentences after a sensational conspiracy trial last summer in Arizona, and indications are not that the FBI has wound down their campaign against environmental radicals in the least.

No, the problems have not diminished or disappeared, but this Rendezvous seemed to be more of a coming together and healing than the movement has had in a couple of years. I sensed a revitalization and a reaffirmation that in fact the only way to contend with the bottom line reality check — that we in the environmental movement are still losing too much too fast — is with renewed vigor to resist and react in defense.

Amoco Targeted in Closing Action

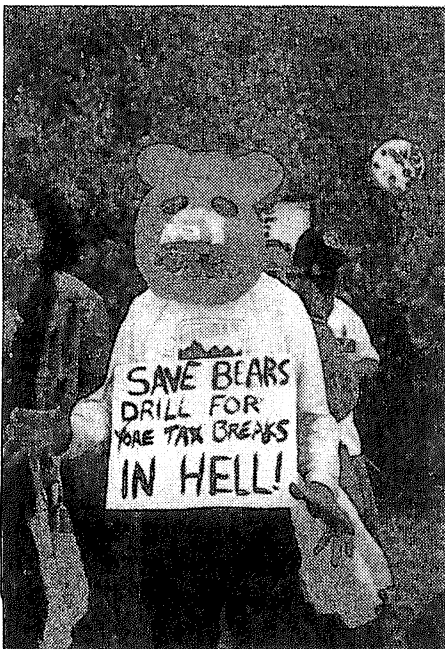
This renewed vigor was manifested in a rowdy action following the RRR, in EF! tradition, at the Amoco offices in Durango, Colorado. Telling Amoco to "drill for your tax breaks in hell," protesters chained themselves to the doors at Amoco Production Company headquarters.

At issue was Amoco's plans to explore



for methane in the HD hills. They plan to construct 55 miles of roads and drill as many as 33 wells inside the San Juan National Forest. The gas is of marginal value, but Amoco reaps big tax breaks from this activity which promises to be a major disruption to wildlife. A coalition of state and local environmental groups contend that the Forest Service failed to adequately assess the impact of the drilling on groundwater, air quality, endangered species, and archeological sites.

Twenty-five people were arrested at the protest on July 6, the day after the Rendezvous ended. A second action happened with very little effort on our part — in fact, it was just by virtue of Earth First! being there that the Stone Container Corporation (which recently attempted a huge land-grab in Honduras) reacted. They assumed (with good reason) that they were a likely target of post-Rendezvous protesters, and we later found out that while protesters were securing their kryptonite locks at Amoco, a small contingent of Wise Use counter-demonstrators and about 30 cops gathered at the Stone Container offices. Stone Container then shut down opera-



photos by Janis Tilton

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Operation Homestead...

Reclaiming Abandoned Buildings in Seattle

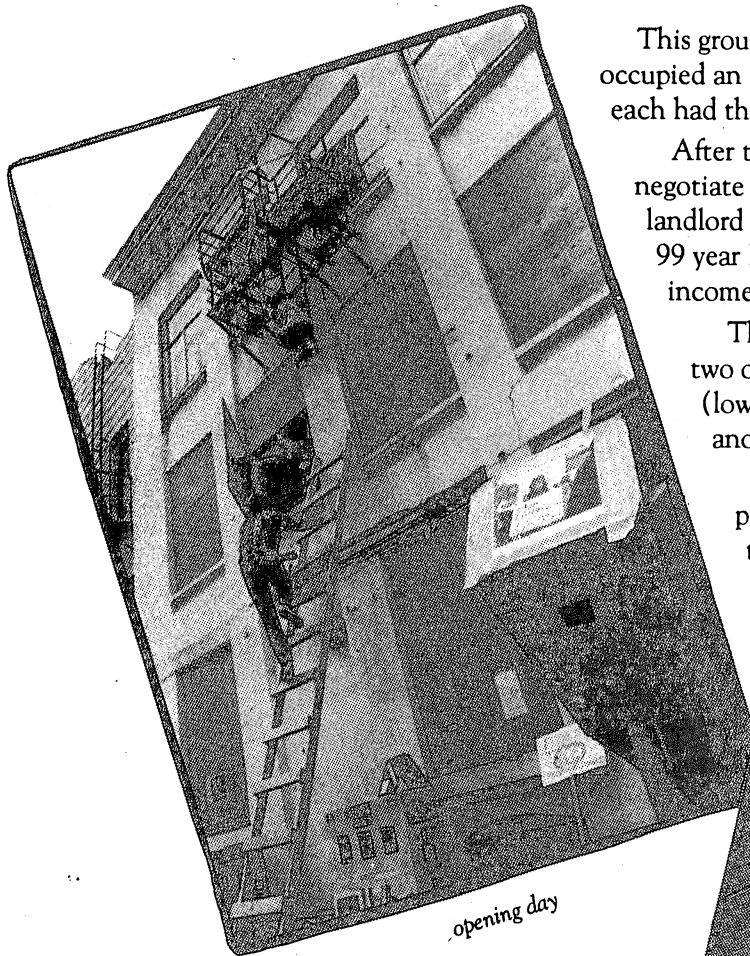
This group of photos is from an action at Arian Court last May. We occupied an abandoned building for a week. About 30 homeless people each had their own room.

After the eviction, we (Operation Homestead) continued to negotiate with the landlord and with community leaders. The landlord has given the building to the Development Coalition for a 99 year lease—free—to be used as half transitional and half low-income housing.

This is the third occupation by Operation Homestead. So far, two of the buildings we have occupied have been saved, and one (low income housing) was demolished. We are planning another action for September.

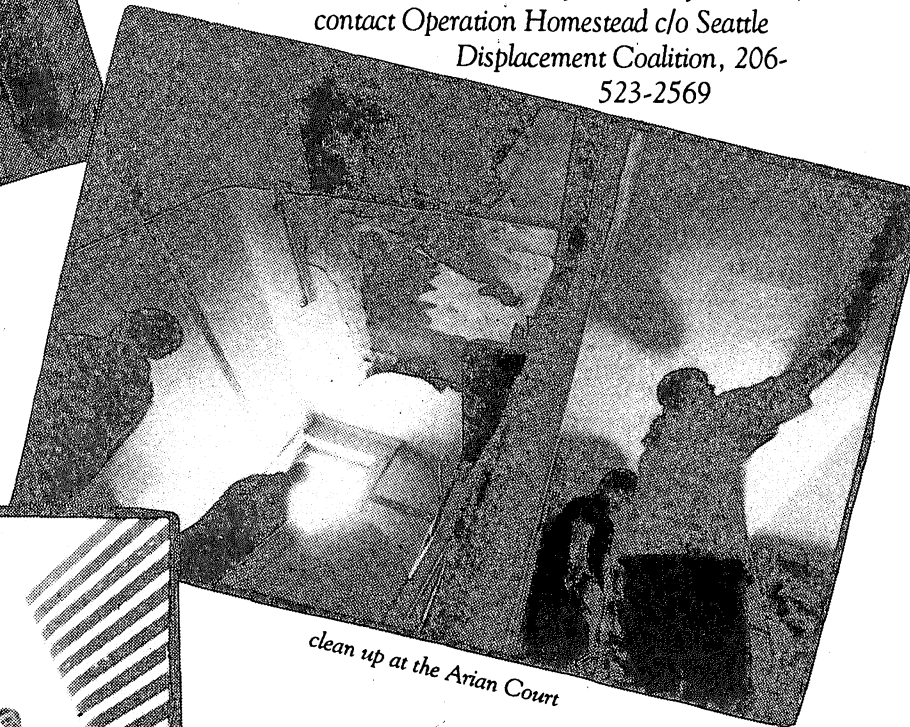
There was lots of press at the action, and a lot of people wrote letters to editors applauding our “beautification” of the building. Once again the art brigade was ALIVE.

A longer article is available — for more information, contact Operation Homestead c/o Seattle Displacement Coalition, 206-523-2569



opening day

*Photos and text by Dana Schuerholz/
Impact Visuals*



clean up at the Arian Court



eviction

GroundWork welcomes reports and especially photos of your events, actions and organizing. We want to know what's happening in your community.

Food Not Bombs

How to Feed the Hungry and Build Community

Food Not Bombs: How to Feed the Hungry and Build Community, by C.T. Lawrence Butler and Keith McHenry, New Society Publishers, Philadelphia, 1992

This is an extraordinary book, written by an extraordinary community of people. Their slogan requires no complicated analysis. Those three words "say it all." They point unerringly to the double challenge: to feed immediately people who are without adequate food, and to replace a system whose priorities are power and profit with one meeting the needs of all human beings.

The message of Food Not Bombs is simple and powerful: no one should be without food in a world so richly provided with land, sun and human ingenuity. No consideration of money, no demand for profit, should stand in the way of any hungry or malnourished child or any adult in need.



Food Not Bombs Plans National Gathering

Food Not Bombs will hold a national gathering October 7-11 in San Francisco. The gathering will include skills sharing as well as discussions of a possible national network, coordinated actions and/or future gatherings.

People from Food Not Bombs groups such as Albuquerque, Boston, Detroit, Eugene, and Portland (Maine) plan to attend, and other FNB groups have expressed interest. Observers from groups supporting FNB's work are welcome. For more information, call 415-330-5030 or 510-644-4187.

For more information on FNB, and to reach a group in your area, contact:

1430 Mass. Ave #306-35
Cambridge MA 02138
617-864-8786

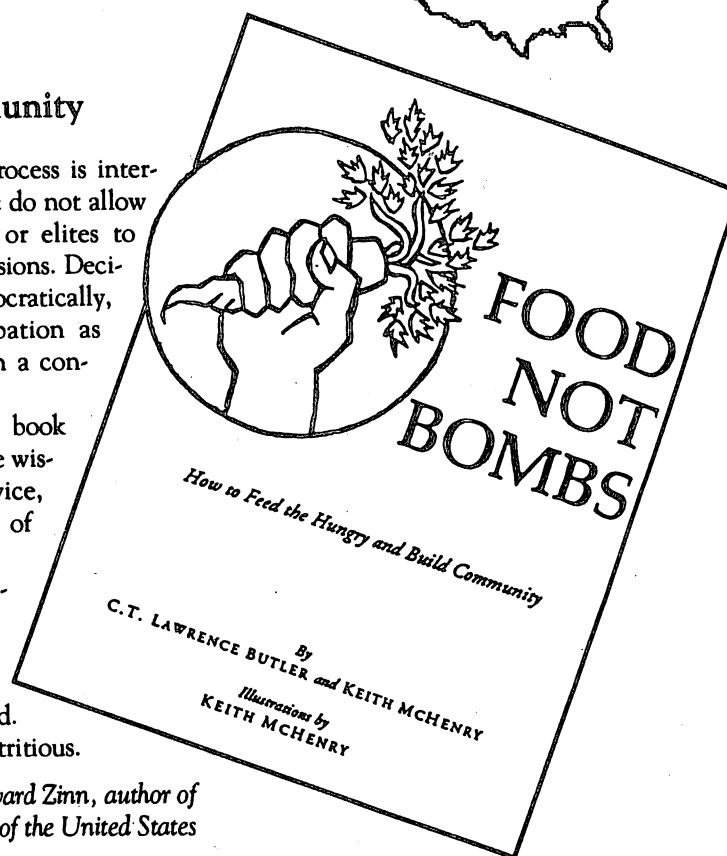
3145 Geary Blvd #12
San Francisco CA 94118
415-330-5030

Every step in this process is intertwined with the warning: do not allow self-appointed "leaders" or elites to make the important decisions. Decisions must be made democratically, with as wide a participation as possible, aiming to reach a consensus.

It is rare to find a book that combines long-range wisdom with practical advice, but here is a treasury of such advice.

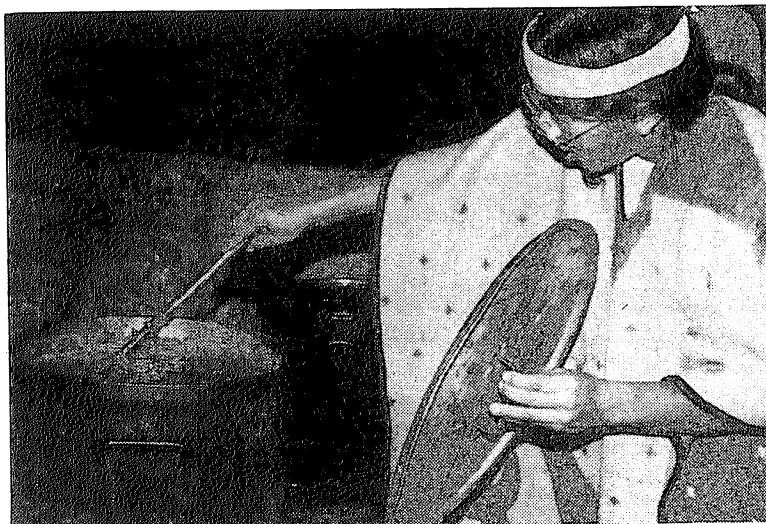
The idea here is profound. If we want a good society, we need not shout, but rather *show*, how life should be lived. Yes, this book is truly nutritious.

*from the foreword by Howard Zinn, author of
A People's History of the United States*



Chapters include:

- Starting a Food Not Bombs Group
- Food Collection & Distribution
- Street Theatre
- Legal Tips, Arrest and Jail
- Nonviolence
- History of Food Not Bombs
- Recipes



Cooking at the Food Not Bombs kitchen, Nevada Test Site, April 1992, photo by Lynda Simpson



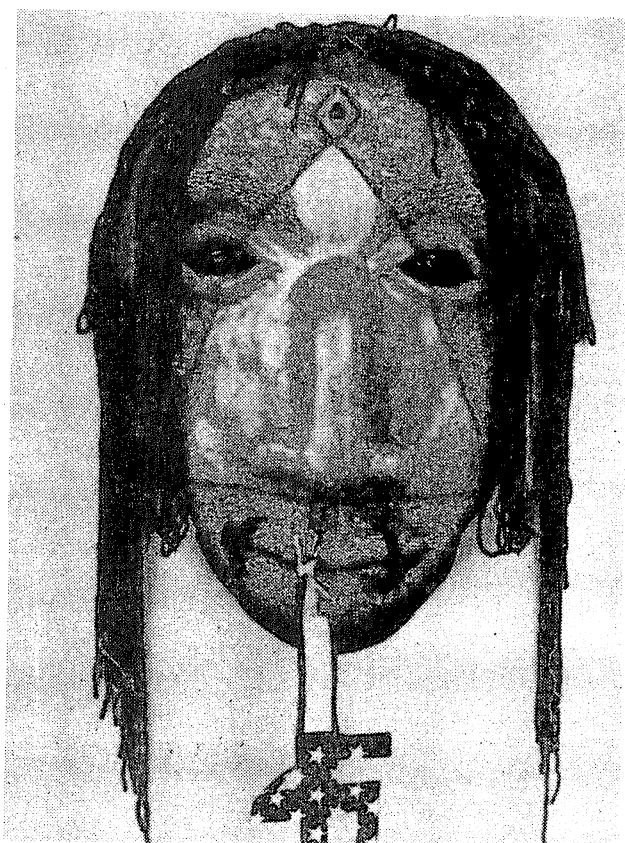
Art &

Clockwise, from top left:

- Maire Hough, "Self Portrait"
- David Riedman, "Lovers I & II"
- Thomas Plageman, "Brian Varanzoff"
- Richard Davenport, "Self Portraits"
- Leonard Moore, "The Eyes Seem to Follow"
- Larry Deans, "Silence = Death"

All works copyright by the artist

Art & Resistance ideas are always welcome. This issue's layout coordinated by Sharon Siskin & George Franklin





Positive Art

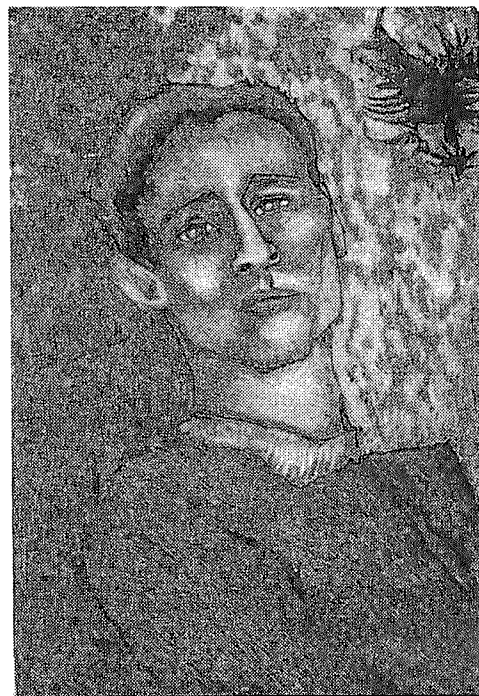
In 1988, Rest Stop Support Center in San Francisco and the Center for AIDS Services in Oakland pioneered a community arts project. Supported by an Artist-in-Residence grant from the California Arts Council, Bay Area artist Sharon Siskin offered two free classes a week, one at each organization.

The idea for the project grew to become a support network for and by artists with HIV disease. The project now offers free art supplies, free work space, grant writing assistance, teaching positions, and exhibition opportunities to anyone living with AIDS/ARC/HIV.

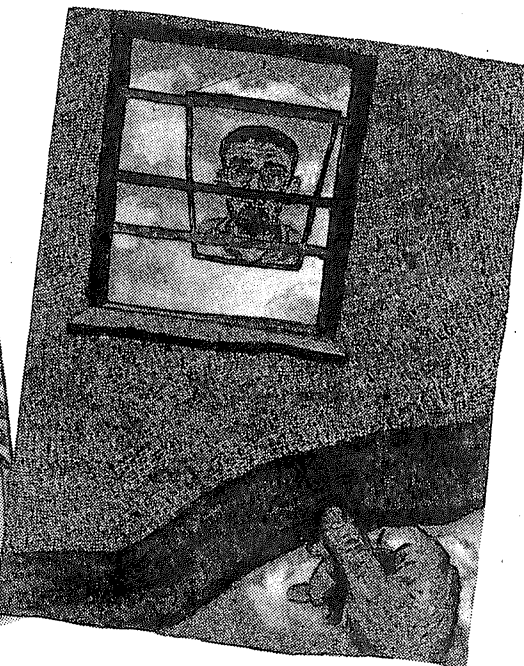
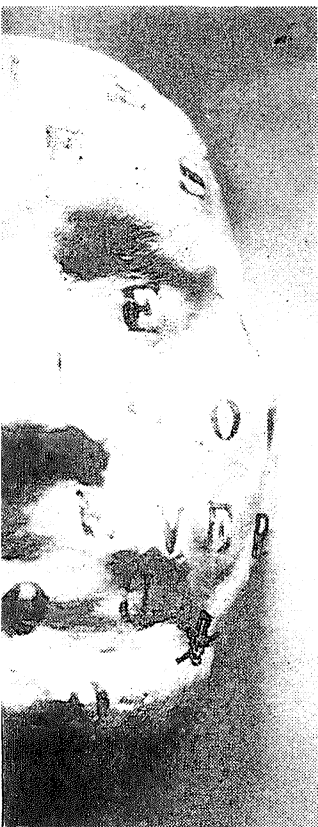
Exhibitions have been held the past four years, including paintings, drawings, sculpture, music and performance art.

Due to California budget cuts this project may be in jeopardy, unless the legislature votes to continue funding the Arts Council.

As can be seen from even this small sampling of Positive Art, the arts are an integral part of all of our daily lives. The arts keep us alive in more ways than one.



RESISTANCE





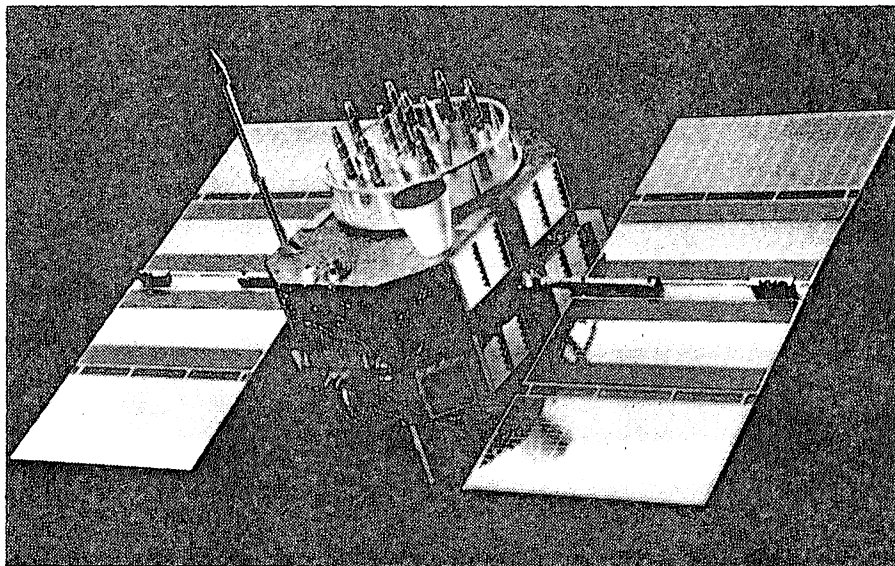
Plowshares Activists Decommission NavSTAR Satellites

by Ken Greenstein

On May 10, in a pre-dawn action, Keith Kjoller and Peter Lumsdaine, posing as employees, entered a Rockwell International facility in Seal Beach, California and axed a few NavSTAR GPS military satellites. "We took this step of citizen disarmament in hope of unmasking the horror behind NavSTAR and to inspire others to resist NavSTAR in their own way," stated the two activists. This Plowshares action resulted in their arrest at the Rockwell facility and both now face a federal charge which could result in a 10 year sentence.

Activists and researchers are convinced that NavSTAR's purpose is for offensive purposes, not defensive or civilian applications. NavSTAR GPS ("Navigation System Time and Ranging, Global Positioning System") was halfway to full deployment before May. There are several important military applications for this system.

The Pentagon will expediently use NavSTAR for conventional warfare. The satellites guide police and military in counter-insurgency operations against peasant guerrillas, refugees and indigenous communities, day or night in any location. NavSTAR directs bombers and cruise missiles in destroying the infrastructure of targeted nations. In



the Persian Gulf War, NavSTAR was instrumental in precision attacks on such Iraqi systems as the electric power grid. In future wars, NavSTAR will be an integral part of a multi-faceted assault.

NavSTAR also provides U.S. nuclear missiles with unprecedented accuracy, which makes a surprise U.S. first strike plausible because a rival's deter-

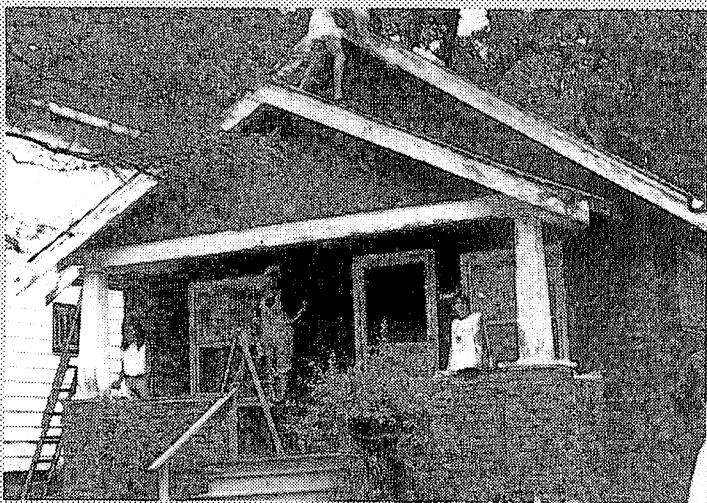
rent missiles could be destroyed in their silos before being launched.

In a *Lonely Planet* interview Lumsdaine claims, "there are 12 or 13 operational production satellites that are now in orbit out of 24 the Air Force plans to use. When the system is complete they will get precise longitude, altitude, velocity and time on every square inch of the earth's surface. So there will be a radical increase of capabilities... if people allow this to happen."

Kjoller and Lumsdaine are experienced activists. Both men helped start the Santa Cruz-based Lockheed Action Collective which organizes against the Trident II facility, where over 400 civil disobedience arrests have occurred. Lumsdaine is a former Department of Energy consultant and then was an organizer against nuclear power with Abalone Alliance. He later focused on nuclear weapons, founding the First Strike Prevention Project in 1985.

The two men have pleaded guilty and are now in a Los Angeles jail. They will be sentenced in August or September.

Contributions and organizing support are needed. Contact Maxina Ventura at (415) 824-0214 or P.O. Box 11645 Berkeley, CA 94701.



Detroit Summer: Reclaiming the City and Building Community
See Green News Pages 46-47

Redefining Leadership and Power

by Daniel Solnit

Leadership has become a dirty word for many activists, because we associate "leader" with those who sit at the top of the social hierarchy, running our political and economic institutions. The word has become synonymous with domination, control, and power over others.

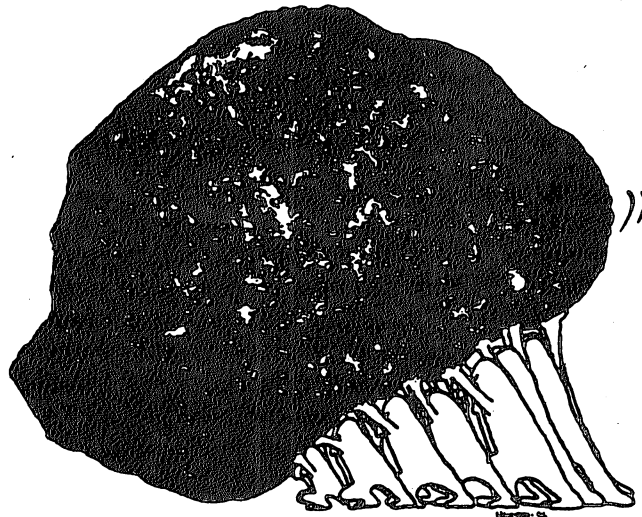
I want to reclaim and re-define the word in accord with our values: a true leader is anyone who inspires, encourages, or empowers others — primarily by personal example — to take charge of their lives and the world around them. (Take charge: assume responsibility for, stewardship of; to put things "right" — as opposed to "control".) A true leader decentralizes and distributes power, rather than concentrating it. A true leader gives rise to other leaders, not followers. We often call for a leaderless movement; I think what we really want is a followerless movement, in which everyone acts with complete power, courage, and commitment. We were all born true leaders; what happened?

All of us have been mistreated by authority in some way, beginning with the adults around us as kids. We have been lied to, manipulated, exploited, and sometimes abused or subjected to violence by either society as a whole (e.g. sexism, poverty, pollution) or by individuals acting out their social roles (rape, brutality, rejection). We expect anyone in a position of 'power' to repeat the pattern, which is one reason we often attack our own leaders — or anyone showing drive or initiative. (When feeling this fear, it might be useful to ask ourselves — is this person acting for the good of the group or organization, in alignment with our goals and agreements? Or are they acting for themselves, creating division?)

Leadership is a form of service to others, in which we do not abandon our own needs, but rather align them with the greater good of the group. (Consensus process embodies this form of leadership.) This is why elected officials were called "public servants," a principle too often forgotten. What if "the president, like an In-

dian chief, was always the last to eat?" ("Warriors of the Rainbow," song by Carolyn Hester) What if mayors slept on the street until everyone was housed, bankers and CEOs went unpaid until everyone had a steady income, and Generals were placed in the front lines until the world was at peace?

We have been conditioned all our lives to hand our power over to others: experts, officials, science, religion, or our movement's designated leadership. We (and the Earth) can no longer afford this.



Grassroots democracy means that each of us leads, sharing responsibility for correcting what is wrong and building a just and sustainable society. Really accepting this can feel scary, overwhelming, or hopeless, because the underlying message of our conditioning tells us that we are powerless — in the world and in our own lives. This lie is the core that holds all the rest of the oppressive system in place. When we give it up, the rest unravels.

I have noticed a subtle but crucial shift among Greens in recent years (especially since attaining ballot status), from the old belief that power resides in a virtually omnipotent government/corporate structure, to a new understanding that we are the basis of power, and of the social order, and that we can organize to change it at the roots. This represents a shift in our self-image as activists, from "the small

band of rebels, fists in the air, shouting ineffectually at the palace gates," to something resembling a "government-in-waiting." Much more than just a government, really — perhaps one seed of an emerging culture, displacing the dying one. Greens and other activists are recognizing that we need to move rapidly to build the alternative social, political, and economic institutions that will provide the basis of the next society, salvaging what we can from the decay of this one.

The present world order is falling apart. This is an unprecedented opportunity, an opening to new possibilities, yet this "ecollapse" is particularly difficult for some of us to see or accept because we feel so dependent on the old system and so powerless to do anything about it. Our sense of powerlessness paralyzes us, makes us reactive, fear-based, crisis-oriented, distrustful, and unable to sustain our struggles or our vision.

Reclaiming our power means redefining the concept. The patriarchy views it as domination, the ability to control, coerce, or exploit others. The U.S. is called the most powerful nation because we can kill everyone several times over. This is really about fear, and has nothing to do with real power. I define power as the ability to create, nurture, and sustain life in all its forms. Our power as humans arises from cooperation, not competition, and from love, not fear. We are more powerful than we have dared imagine; we need only commit ourselves completely to the task before us to find out how much more we are capable of — and how much internal resistance and fear we have been fed to keep us powerless.

The essence of leadership is our willingness to push through our sense of powerlessness or despair, to commit our entire

continued on page 60



Cleaning Up the Cold War:

International Conference on the Wastes of War

by Marylia Kelley

photos by Robert Del Tredici

Several months have passed since I returned from the Radioecology conference in Chelyabinsk, Russia, and I am still flooded with impressions. I will sort out a few to share with you.

The conference was immense, with 550 participants from about 10 countries. Key US and Russian groups included the Chelyabinsk Nuclear Safety Committee, management personnel from the two nearby nuclear weapons facilities, the Center for Citizen Initiatives, Physicians for Social Responsibility, U.C. Irvine, and dozen citizens' groups associated with the Military Production Network. Conference sessions were enlarged, and ran from morning 'til dark. My presentation was on Conversion, and it was well received, even by some of the Russian nuclear establishment.

One of the aims of the conference was to forge links between citizens groups in the Chelyabinsk region and their counterparts here in this country, focusing on our common problems with radioactive waste and the environmental impacts of nuclear development. I believe we have made a good start. Tri-Valley CAREs may have an

opportunity to host a delegation from Chelyabinsk.

Chelyabinsk is a city of about one and a half million people in the southern Urals, a couple of hours east of Moscow by plane. Until last year, it was a "closed" city due to its military electronics work as well as its proximity to Chelyabinsk 65 (the Soviet/Russian equivalent to Hanford) and Chelyabinsk 70 (the equivalent to Liver-

more Lab).

Chelyabinsk 70 was founded in 1955, and like Livermore houses design laboratories and non-nuclear explosive testing ranges. Chelyabinsk 65, like Hanford, was involved in the plutonium cycle. Both countries labs wield significant influence over their respective nuclear weapons complexes and governments' policies, from weapons policy to radiation standards..

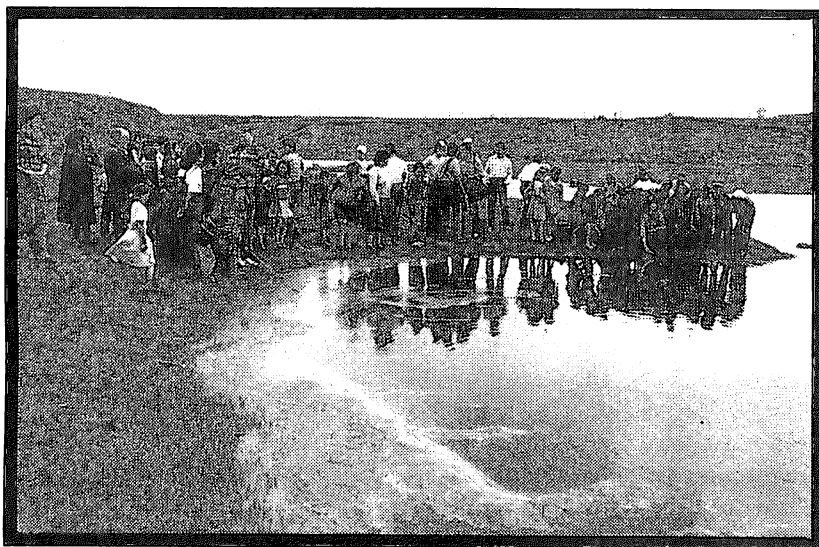
The region has suffered three nuclear catastrophes. Between 1949 and 1952 waste from plutonium processing was dumped directly into the slow moving Techa river. Some nearby villages were evacuated by the government. The settlement of Muslyumova was not. Villagers told us they believe they were not evacuated because they are largely ethnic minorities.

The second major accident in the region took place in September 1957, when a radioactive waste storage tank exploded. Signs were erected in 1958 telling people to keep out of affected forest areas, but the full extent of the contamination was kept secret until 1989. About 10 years later, the region was once again subjected to serious contamination. During a drought in the

continued on next page



Villagers gather to meet us in Muslyumova.



At a reservoir holding nuclear waste from plutonium processing, remnants of the evacuated village of Metlino still stand.



Grassroots Demand Public Control

Resolutions of the International Conference on Radioecology

Chelyabinsk, Russia, May 20-22, 1992

We the citizens of various countries, being aware of our responsibility for the effects of radioactive pollution on the planet, our common home, have gathered together at this important conference in this city, which until recently was closed to foreigners...

Hiding behind the slogan of "national security", our two governments, and particularly their nuclear-industrial complexes, continue chemical reprocessing, nuclear weapons production, and/or testing of nuclear weapons, without adequately informing the public. ...Again and again they demonstrate that priority is given to the production of arms at the expense of the health of the population, including employees of the nuclear industry.

At the conference we have been able to learn about the results of classified research on health conditions of the victims of the nuclear industry in Chelyabinsk and

other regions... These preliminary results enable us to comprehend that science belongs to all humanity. We feel that is our moral duty to publicize widely this data and its implications...

We call on the people of our countries to demand from their governments:

1. That all future efforts for the protection of health should be completely open to the public. The withholding of information has caused catastrophic consequences. People have the right to know to which dangers they have been exposed, and what the future holds for them.

2. That policy-making and public health measure should be removed from the sphere of activity of nuclear monopolies. They have demonstrated their inability to carry out the responsibility simultaneously for arms production and for public health. An informed public should define

public policy through independent organizing. Public health measures should be carried out by independent specialists, people suffering from radiation exposure and the general public.

3. That complete cessation of nuclear weapons testing should be carried out as a realistic step towards the reduction of the likelihood of nuclear confrontation.

There are 19 other resolutions, available from Tri-Valley CAREs, 5720 East Ave #116, Livermore, CA 94550.

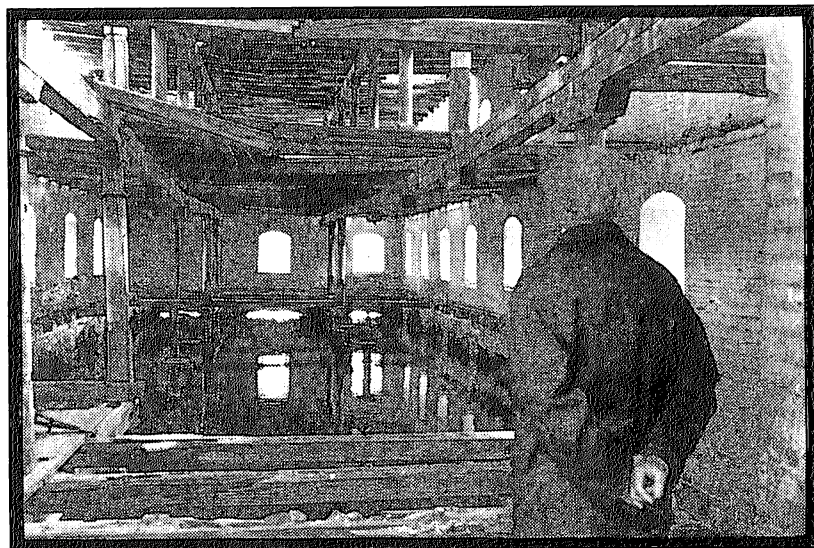
U.S. Pressuring Russia to Resume Nuclear Testing?

Author Marylia Kelley also reports that on her trip to Russia, she spoke with Dr. Albert Vasilyev, division head at Chelyabinsk 70, who told her that in January 1992, Secretary of State James Baker visited the Chelyabinsk Nuclear Weapons Complex. A week later, John Nuckolls, director of Livermore Weapons Lab, and Sig Hecker, director of Los Alamos Weapons Lab (the U.S.'s two nuclear weapons design labs) visited the Chelyabinsk Complex and discussed nuclear testing. "Like Baker's visit to Chelyabinsk, they were probably applying pressure to resume testing," Kelley said.

On February 27, Boris Yeltsin surprised the world by signing a decree allowing drilling at the Novaya Zemlya testing site, which would give Russia the capability of resuming testing when their moratorium expires in October 1992.

Then in March, Nuckolls testified to Congress that, since the Russians were considering resuming testing, the U.S. must continue its testing program.

Is this all a coincidence? Probably not, Kelley said. "What it shows is an alliance of the nuclear establishments of both countries against their own people. I don't think this alliance is new, but they are getting desperate, and it's beginning to show."



Conference delegates and villagers with radiation counters take readings along the bank of the Techa River near Mushuyomova

continued from preceding page

mid 1960's, the shores of a major radioactive waste reservoir dried up. Winds scattered radioactive dust over a broad area.

As we Conference participants from Russia and the U.S. shared our stories of

nuclear complex accidents and contamination, our struggles for information and justice and our hopes for the future, the similarities of our mutual experiences emerged. The Chelyabinsk conference set a strong precedent for future joint efforts.



Inter - Weave

Panama: A Modest Proposal—Abolish All Armies, by Oscar Arias Sanchez, former President of Costa Rica The current debate over Panama's constitution offers its citizens an historic opportunity to disband the republic's armed forces forever... While it is clear that eliminating national armies is not alone sufficient to create democracy in Third World nations, such a step will remove one of the biggest obstacles to democratization. Enormous resources can be applied to development initiatives when a nation moves to scrap its arsenals and its armed legions. Costa Rica's unilateral disarmament produced an annual peace dividend that, in 1987, amounted to more than \$100 million. The amount of money that most developing countries spend on their military represents an act of aggression against the well-being of their peoples.

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Latin America: Breastfeeding No Longer A Common Practice As more and more mothers opt to work to increase the family income in poverty-stricken Latin America, fewer infants are breastfed. In Paraguay, this percentage went down from 77 to 69 percent, while it slipped from 63 to 56 percent in Colombia. UNICEF says the decrease in the practice of breastfeeding can also be traced to the people's emigration from rural areas to the cities, the lack of support from hospital staff and media publicity presenting substitute milk as better and more modern.

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El Salvador: Death Squads Escalate "Dirty War" (CISPES Human Rights Alert) A series of unsolved killings, many of them carried out in characteristic death squad fashion, are threatening to undermine El Salvador's peace process. The violence comes as the Ad Hoc Commission and the Truth Commission, two bodies

created through the peace accords, are investigating Army officers' human rights records. It is also significant that many of the victims have been activists in the labor movement.

Suggested actions: 1. Send messages to :President Cristiani: telex: 20245 / fax:

such as intolerance and the impunity of human rights violators. The archbishopric said 470 people had been murdered in the past six months, including 190 who had been executed by the armed forces.

After five days of negotiating, the Serrano government and the Guatemalan Na-

tional Revolutionary Unity (URNG)

only reached a partial agreement on the civil patrols. At the end of the August 3-7 meeting in Mexico City, the government

said it will not "promote or give weapons to new voluntary civil defense committees as long as nothing happens to motivate such actions." On the second day of the talks representatives of 77 citizen groups arrived at Hotel del Prado where negotiators were meeting to ask for their direct participation in the peace process. In its opening statement for this round of talks, the URNG said it believes negotiators must give citizens' proposals a place in the negotiating process.

The government did not make a public statement on the issue.

Catholic Church spokesman Edwin Garcia said the unstable atmosphere in Guatemala makes a mass return of refugees living in Mexico difficult.

The Guatemala Human Rights Commission/USA monitors the human rights situation in Guatemala. To subscribe to the Guatemala Human Rights Update send \$30 (yearly subscription) to GHRC/USA at: 3321 12th Street NE, Washington DC, 20017. Or call (202) 529-6599 or fax (202) 526-4611 for more information.

Guatemala News and Information Bureau publishes "Re-

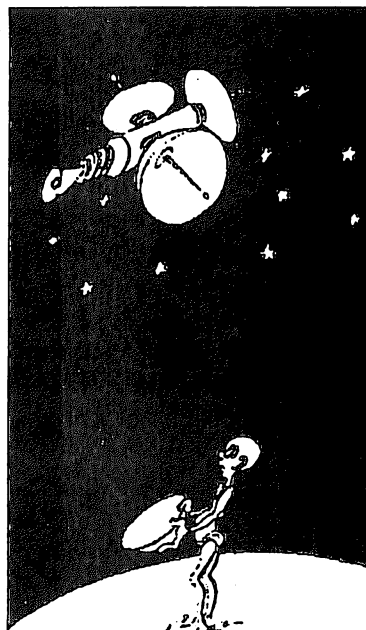
A Global Digest of Actions, Alerts & Updates

011-503-71-0950

2. Visits and calls to Congress: (202)224-3121. Suggested message: Investigate the recent murders of labor leaders and activists from FENASTRAS, ANTEL, and ANTMOP. Stop the repression and death threats. Human rights abuses must end.

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Guatemala: Increase in Human Rights Violations Human rights violations are increasing, and the government is to blame for this terror, says the mutual support group (gam), which represents family members of those who have disappeared after being arrested by the police. The Guatemala City Archbishopric also issued a statement Tuesday, blaming the government for carrying out a traditional policy of terror, which does not permit society to overcome obstacles,



C. HARRIS



port on Guatemala," a quarterly newsmagazine. Contact PO Box 28594, Oakland CA 94604, 510-835-0810.

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Honduras: Secret Logging Deal With US Firm
The Stone Container Corporation of the US appears poised to begin extensive logging operations in the Mosquitia forest on Honduras' Atlantic coast, despite the government's cancellation of an earlier deal in the face of mass public protests. The company's new plan is to exploit more than one million hectares of the Mosquitia forest over a 40-year period, with an additional option to exploit other forest areas over a 20-year period. Experts also stress that whereas Stone originally agreed to reforest the areas it exploited, the new proposal makes no mention of reforestation projects and bluntly states that its function is to "cut down" trees. At present, only 3.9 million hectares of forest remain, covering 35 percent of Honduras' 11,288 square kilometer area. The Mosquitia region, with its exuberant vegetation and some 700 species of animals, has already been declared a reserve area by the government. This forest is also home to several indigenous groups whose survival is threatened.

Protests Organized Against US and British Mining Firms
Residents, students and teachers of the Minas de Oro community in the Honduran central province of Comayuga have organized protest rallies against US and British firms out to exploit a gold and copper mine valued at some six billion dollars. Led by primary schoolteacher Angel Sandoval, the group is trying to block attempts by the US's Fisher Watt gold company, conducting exploratory operations for the US firm, Kennecott, to start excavation. Kennecott is a subsidiary of the British company RTZ.

The Minas del Oro community fear that Kennecott will use cyanide to exploit the mines and thus contaminate the wa-



Kids search through a Guatemala City baserero (garbage dump). Photo by David Loeb, from Report on Guatemala

ters and environment. Honduran environmentalists say RTZ has a long history in Africa, particularly in Namibia, where it will soon start operations in the controversial Rössing uranium mine.

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NAFTA: Energy Proposal Called Threat to Workers
A NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) proposal to open Mexico's energy sector threatens the health and security of millions of Mexican workers, a coalition of environmental, labor and social groups from Mexico, Canada and the US argued in Mexico City. Fabio Barbosa, an energy specialist from the National Autonomous University of Mexico, said the energy proposals contained in the June 5 draft agreement show that Mexico is being pressed by the US and Canada to open its petrochemical industry to foreign ownership and control. Mexican workers are already suffering under "barbaric working conditions" particularly in the Maquilladora free trade zone along the US-Mexican border, Barbosa said.

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Nicaragua: President Signs Anti-Gay Law
Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro has signed Article 205 of Nicaragua's revised penal code, giving Nicaragua the most repressive anti-gay law

in Latin America. The article reads: "An individual is guilty of the crime of sodomy if he or she induces, promotes, propagandizes or practices in a scandalous manner, sexual acts between individuals of the same sex, and said individual will face punishment of 1 to 3 years in prison." The National Assembly passed Article 205 by a 43-39 vote on June 11: All but three legislators from the US-sponsored UNO coalition voted for the article; the entire Sandinista bloc voted against it. The Nicaraguan Center for Constitutional Rights

(CCR) plans to make such a challenge, based on the constitutionally guaranteed right to privacy. In addition, gay and lesbian activists plan to flood the Nicaraguan courts with separate challenges to the new law. CCR lawyers believe the Supreme Court justices may vote to overturn the new law, especially if international pressure is brought to bear upon them.

For more information, contact:
Enrique Asis, Latin American Coordinator, IGLHRC: 415-255-8680; Milu Vargas at the Center for Constitutional Rights in Managua: 505-2-26301; or the Nicaraguan Lesbian and Gay Rights Information Line: 212-475-7159. Nicaragua Updates are published weekly. A one-year subscription is \$25, from Nicaragua Solidarity Network Of Greater New York, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012.

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Puerto Rico: Union Wins Settlement On Plant Move To Puerto Rico
The US Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW) has won a \$24 million settlement from American Home Products, a pharmaceutical company that moved to Puerto Rico to take advantage of tax breaks. The company agreed to reimburse workers who were left unemployed when it shifted most of its mainland production to

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its Guayama plant in Puerto Rico. Asked on July 30 about what the settlement said of AHP's guilt, OCAW president Robert Wages said, "Companies don't pay \$24 million as a monument to pious conduct."

Meanwhile, some 10,000 demonstrators marched on August 1 through heavy rains to protest the planned building of a coal plant by Cogentrix company in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. "Health and the environment are not negotiable," said Julia Mignucci, president of a local environmental organization.

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Philippines: Deforestation Caused Floods Massive deforestation was a major factor in the killer floods that recently swept a north-eastern province of the Philippines and claimed at least 20 lives, said an official government report released this week. Only 11.7 percent of the 14,000-hectare Cabu river watershed in Nueva Ecija remains covered with forest, said acting DENR Secretary Ricardo Umali, while 75 percent of the province's total forest cover is now gone. Umali blamed the massive denudation on the illegal poaching of timber. With the deforestation rate of the Philippines now pegged at 219,000 hectares a year, experts say the country can expect its forests to be gone in less than 40 years.

The Bataan Nuclear Power Plant, built on the slopes of the Natib volcano and surrounded by several earthquake faults, will be started up in 1994, if a settlement between Westinghouse and the Philippine government is approved by the Philippine Congress. Westinghouse will give the Philippines \$100 million,

in exchange for a \$400 million contract to upgrade and operate the plant for 30 years, leaving the Philippines responsible for security, emergency planning, decommissioning and waste disposal!

Write letters of protest to Rep. Henry Gonzalez, (Chair House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee), Sen. Donald Riegle (Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs) and Rep. David Obey and Sen. Patrick Leahy (House and Senate Appropriations, Foreign Operations Subcommittee).

The Philippine Environmental Update, \$10/year from Philippine Environmental Support Network, PO Box 117494, Burlingame CA 94011-7494

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East Timor: Timor Massacre Survivors

Jailed For "Subversion" On November 12, 1991, a crowd of thousands of unarmed Timorese civilians marched to the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili to lay flowers on the grave of slain independence activist Sebastio Gomes. Indonesian soldiers opened fire on the crowd without provocation, killing at least a hundred people. Two survivors of the massacre were jailed for subversion. Gregorio da Cunha Saldanha received a life sentence, while Francisco Miranda Branco was sentenced to 15 years in prison. Six other Timorese activists were found guilty of "publicly expressing hostility towards the government" and sentenced to jail terms ranging from five to ten years. Amnesty International, Asia Watch and other human rights groups have condemned the harsh sentences imposed on non-violent demonstra-

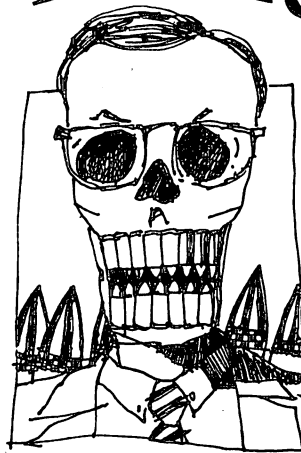
tors and declared them prisoners of conscience. The House of Representatives voted unanimously on June 25 to stop funding the Indonesian military. The vote removes \$2.3 million in International Military Education and Training (IMET) for Indonesia from the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1993.

Actions: Write your Senators - The arena now moves to the Senate, which will vote in September on cutting IMET aid to Indonesia.

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Sources: PeaceNet, Peace Media Service, Philippine Environmental Support Network, Inter Press Service, International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Committee, CISPES, Nicaragua Solidarity Network, Caribbean Project of Justice and Peace. Material assembled & edited by Steve Nadel.

Call To Action



Michael Powers

If President Bush Vetoes The Nuclear Test Moratorium

Protest At Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab
— East & Vasco Roads — 11:00AM —
The Saturday Following The Veto

Rally & Non-Violent Direct Action
For More Information & Non-Violence Trainings
Livermore Conversion Project
P.O Box 9334, Berkeley CA 94709
(510) 444-5701



Planetary Greens and the Global Forum

by Roberto Mendoza, Green
Coordinating Committee

Sulaiman Mahdi and I were selected to represent the Greens/Green Party USA in Rio, at the Detroit Council meeting in April. Sulaiman also went as a member of the Highlander Center Delegation of Grassroots People from the USA. This delegation is a continuation of the Center's People's Forum initiative at the preparatory meeting ("Prep Com IV") in New York City, in March. Also part of the People's Forum was another Rio delegation, the People of Color Environmental Justice group, headed by Dana Alston of the PANOS Institute.

I arrived in Rio on May 29. At the Planetary Green Meeting, there were approximately 70 people from every area of the globe, with the exception of Asia. From the US, along with myself and Sulaiman, were two official delegates from the California Green Party, Kent Smith and Suzanne Manley and several other California Greens. Canada was represented by the Green Party of Canada (Jim Bohlen) and Green Web of Nova Scotia. The meetings were devoted to national reports and revising a draft document — The Final Statement of the First Earth meeting of Greens, in Rio de Janeiro. The next meeting, a Founding Congress, is provisionally scheduled for Kiev, Ukraine in 1993. The next Steering Committee meeting is to be held in Mexico in January, 1993.

Sulaiman and I also met with three people from the Partido Ecologia de Mexico. We discussed possible joint speaking tours through the Southwest and South, and I invited them to our National Gathering.

For the next ten days, I attended the Global Forum, an international meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) held at Flamengo Park. This event was organized by the Center for our

Common Future as a way for NGO's to meet, network and give workshops during the official Earth Summit in Rio. The Global Forum attracted thousands of people. I got involved with the Alternative Treaty Making process of the International NGO Forum. I worked with the Steering Committee of the US/Canada region and helped draft our joint Regional Statement, which we presented at the Plenary session.

Through working with the Alternative Economics Treaty, I got to know Maximo Kalaw Jr. of the Philippine Green Forum, and David Korten of the People Centered Development Forum (also based in the Philippines). Maximo Kalaw is trying to organize a people-centered alternative to the World Bank — the Earth People Bank. Primarily intended to serve grassroots sustainable development projects of the South, it would also provide an alternative to the World Bank's Global Environmental Fund. When I asked him how we could work with the Green Forum, he said we could consider joint grassroots foreign policy initiatives around specific issues. I asked him if the Green Forum was interested in becoming a Green Party, he said they were considering it and were already organizing an Earth Voter registration drive.

On the basis of my input at an Alternative Economics Forum, I was asked to serve as a panel moderator at a Symposium — Challenges of Agenda 21 — hosted by the World Association of UN Interns and Fellows, and UNCTAD. I also participated in a forum — Ecological Reconversion of the North — hosted by Alexander Langer and Jose Regidor of the North/South Campaign. This forum discussed the reasons why people in the North get



caught up in the consumerist mentality and how we can get people to see the ecological, economic and spiritual reasons to live lightly and simply, so that people in the South can use their land and resources to take care of their own needs.

The Highlander Center and People of Color Environmental Justice delegation held a joint press conference. Many Brazilians and other third world groups were surprised that such an outspoken and militant grassroots movement existed in the US. They were used to seeing Big Ten environmental groups like the National Wildlife Foundation and the Citizen's Network at international meetings. (I also attended a meeting of the Citizen's Network and was disappointed at the almost all white make-up of the people attending.)

Despite problems with money, the militarization of the city, and logistics, I felt that the Global Forum was a success. For the first time in history, thousands of people from around the world met and discussed the world's ecological problems in a new framework—that of the need for sustainable, ecological development and the need for global equality, especially be-

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Southern Community/Labor Conference for Environmental Justice

December 4-6, New Orleans

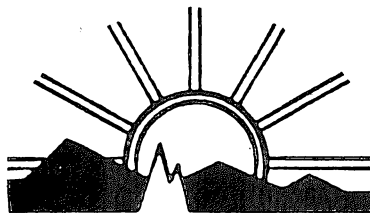
Progressive groups and individuals are invited to attend this Community/Labor Conference. The focus will be on safe and healthy work-places and jobs for all, and the fight for clean air, healthy communities, equity and justice in all aspects of our lives.

In October, 1991, the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit [see *GroundWork*, spring 1992] adopted 17 "Principles of Environmental Justice." These redefine the term "environment" to include the totality of life conditions in our communities — air and water, safe jobs for all at decent wages, housing, education, health care, humane prisons,

equity, justice.

People are fighting back. A powerful movement is growing. Join us in helping to build it!

For more information, contact PO Box 10518, Atlanta, GA 30310. Donations are needed for Youth Transportation. Send them to Amy Belanger/SOC, PO Box 30208, Kansas City MO 64112.



Earth First!

continued from page 27

tions for the day, so sure were they that they deserved a demonstration. So, in effect, two land-raping corporations were shut down with one demo. That's efficiency.

During the Rendezvous, there were several workshops on threats facing the San Juan Mountains in southwestern Colorado, where the RRR was held. There were also discussions of campaigns gearing up this summer to defend two major and threatened roadless areas: the wild Siskiyou in Southern Oregon and the Cove Creek Roadless area in Idaho. Other workshop topics included the Endangered Species Act, the Wise Use Movement, FBI infiltration, women's health, Rainforests in Borneo and Indigenous Peoples issues, as well as nitty gritty themes like how to do media work for demonstrations, tree-climbing for fun and political ends, how to survive as a full-time activist, regional caucuses, and discussions regarding structure and content of the EF! Journal.

Save America's Forests, Food Not Bombs, the Sea Shepherds, and several other groups were represented at the Rendezvous and gave workshops on their campaigns.

In keeping with the Earth First! tradition of combating burnout caused by dealing with overwhelming ecological catastrophe with large doses of irreverent humor and music and neanderthal behavior, the week-long gathering culminated in a wild tribal dance, followed by a day-long rally overflowing with music, comedy skits and joyous celebration of life. This one will go down in the record books as the good vibes Rendezvous, and boy oh boy did we need it. Onward and upward, to the front lines.

To find out more about Earth First!, subscribe to the EF! Journal, PO Box 5176, Missoula, MT 59806; in the San Francisco Bay Area, call the EF! Hotline, 415-949-0575. To support EF! actions, send donations to the EF! Direct Action Fund, PO Box 210, Canyon, CA 94516.

Healing Our Bodies, Healing the Earth

Healing Our Bodies, Healing the Earth is a day-long conference at Wesley UMC in Riverside, California, on Saturday, October 17th. The goal is to illustrate effects of orthodox health care on the environment, the responsibilities of the faith community to be stewards of the Earth, and how alternative sources of medicine promote healing of the individual while

contributing to the health of the planet.

The conference features speakers, a panel, and workshops. Cost is \$60 before October 10th, \$70 after. Work-study scholarships available. Childcare \$10/child, with a week's advance notice. Cost includes lunch and refreshments.

Contact Stephanie Georgieff ND, 714-689-5393.

Turtle Island Bioregional Congress V

*condensed from an article
by Gene Marshall*

The celebratory mood at this Congress broke all bounds on several occasions. I have rarely become more ecstatic at dancing or drumming events. Tuesday night's bandleader, Tommy Hancock, expressed this:

"This occasion on the beautiful upper Guadalupe River was one of those rare events that inspire one toward being a better planetary resident."

The business-work-thinking part of this Congress was a significant leap into something new. We struggled to put our old committees on hold and try to think through some of the general decisions in a different configuration — the "circles of change," we called them. Overwhelming issues were tackled but only begun. Some of the highlights were:

1) We set up a coordinated network linking our existing Bioregional Research and Training Centers.

2) We began the task of mapping our local bioregions.

3) We gave Camp Stewart, where we met, a gift of permaculture design and began the actual work of putting it in place.

4) We reasserted solidarity with Native American people and pledged to assist with 500 Years of Resistance activities.

5) And we accomplished our first genuinely bilingual continental gathering. Being translated seemed to help some of us choose our words more carefully and keep to the point.

Proceedings of TIBC-V available for \$5 from Realistic Living, Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214.

Turn Off the Violence

A Call for a Boycott of Violent TV Programs

October 15, 1992

"We'd all like to turn off the violence. Wouldn't it be nice if it were that easy? If we could turn off all the violence with the turn of a knob? Well, there is one kind of violence we can turn off that way, and maybe it's a small step in the right direction."

A broad coalition of groups in and around Minnesota, ranging from NAACP chapters to police groups, has called for a one-day boycott of all violent television programs on October 15th.

"Each of us has the power to turn off violence beginning in our own homes," says the coalition.

For more info, call, 612-593-8041.

The Real Men's Movement Meets

Coming Home to New Families was the theme for the 17th National Conference on Men and Masculinity, held in Chicago July 9th-12th. It was hosted by the National Organization for Men Against Sexism. NOMAS has been holding conferences annually, for men who are organizing against sexism to network and celebrate. The three guiding principles of NOMAS are pro-feminist, gay-affirmative, and enhancing men's lives. This is the men's movement that has been around for years, quietly organizing. While it is no surprise that the mainstream press prefers to focus on men drumming in the woods, this movement is about *changing* men.

There were about 250 attendees, a balance of gay, bisexual and straight men. There were about a dozen women and a few dozen folks of color. The conference began with institutes: Ending Men's Violence, Anti-Homophobia Education, and Men's Studies. The work-

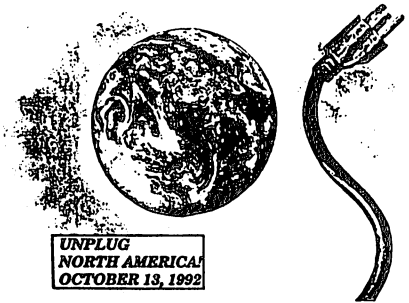
shops ranged from doing anti-rape work, accountability to women, AIDS phobia, parenting, personal growth, pro-feminist men in history, faerie circle, sexual harassment, mentoring and more. The Oakland Men's Project led an inspiring session for everyone on unlearning racism and developing multicultural solidarity. A lively demonstration was held in front of Playboy Magazine headquarters downtown. Later, there was much sharing, with dance, music

continued on page 60



Unplug North America

October 13, 1992



The Indigenous Environmental Network, 19 Ellicott Blvd., Tonawanda, NY 14150, is co-sponsoring this campaign.

The Boston Initiative Meeting

For the second year, a group of progressive intellectuals and organizational

leaders calling themselves the Boston Initiative convened to discuss the need for independent political power, how to break with the current political order, and how to create a new one.

78 of the 400 invitees attended the May 2-3 meeting at Howard University in Washington DC, a three-fold increase from 1991. Individuals from progressive organizations and community groups joined writers and academics to reach consensus on several points, including:

- The current two-party system in the United States leaves the majority of Americans without any real representation. The time has come for alternative political formations.

- The militarization of the economy and the society is a direct cause of the constantly increasing number of Americans lacking decent housing, health care, education and a safe environment.

- The development of an "Economic and Social Bill of Rights" as part of a movement to develop alternative political formations and overcoming the existing fragmentation of progressive forces.

A continuations committee formed to network with other groups, explore additional meetings and broaden the base.

A 12-page report on the meeting, with a list of participants, is available from Boston Initiative, 70A Greenwich Avenue #254, New York NY 10011, 212-240-0276.

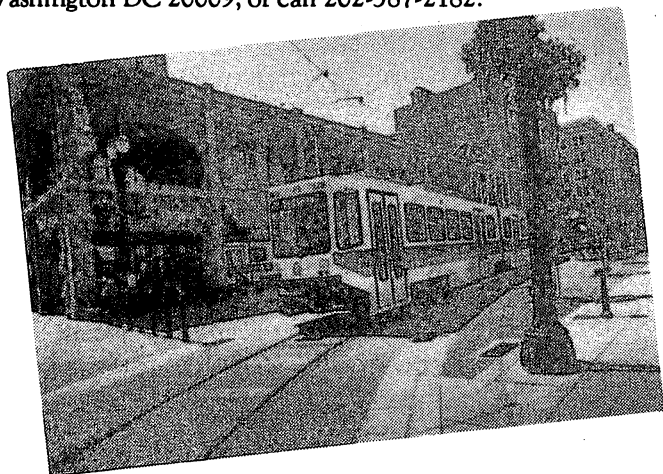


Air Pollution Solutions

What Works

What Works Report #1: Air Pollution Solutions is a compendium of problem-solving strategies employed by citizens, businesses, activists, artists, and state and local governments. Richly illustrated with charts, maps, drawings and photographs, the book details dozens of projects and approaches ranging from fighting the sources of acid rain to promoting bicycle use.

What Works is produced by the Environmental Exchange, a Washington DC nonprofit clearinghouse for environmental work. To order the book, send \$15 (plus \$2 postage & handling) to The Environmental Exchange, 1930 18th Street NW, #24, Washington DC 20009, or call 202-387-2182.



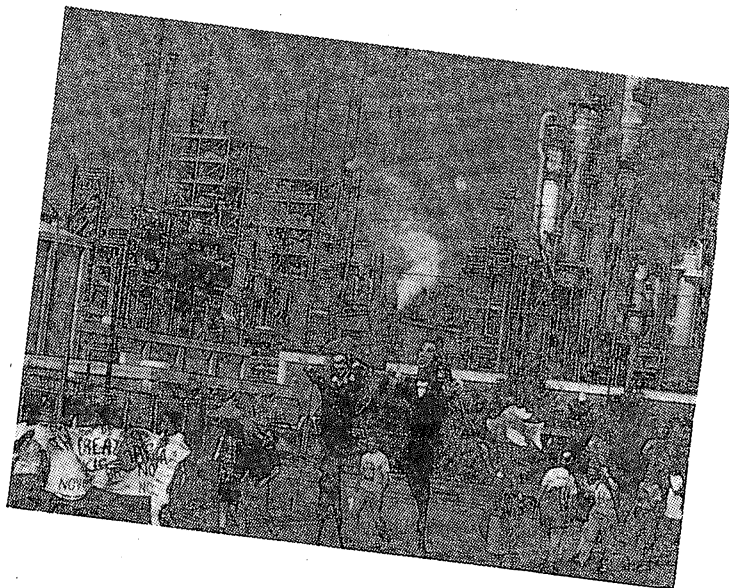
Waste of the West Public Lands Ranching

Stockmen use 70% of the American West for raising livestock, and most of this land is owned by the public. Is ranching the West's most destructive influence? What are public lands ranchers trying to hide? Some say this will be the next great environmental (and perhaps sociopolitical) struggle in the U.S. West.

Waste of the West explores a remarkably sordid, unjust, cruel, wasteful and destructive situation — the obscure and secret world of public lands ranching. This book is an education, and expose, and a call to action.

Chapters include history; environmental, economic, political and cultural/personal/social impacts; animal welfare; alternatives and the future. 600 large-format pages for easy copying, with over 1000 photographs, graphics, charts and maps.

Available for \$28 per copy from Lynn Jacobs, PO Box 5784, Tucson, AZ 85703, 602-578-3173. Bulk discounts available.



New Society Publishers Releases Alternative Economics Titles

Economic social change projects are as varied as the towns and communities in which they take place. These books explore many of these exciting projects. Most are available in paperback and cloth-bound editions.

When Workers Decide: Workplace Democracy Takes Root in North America, paper \$16.95. Introduces hundreds of worker-run businesses. Explores the relationships between worker-owners, the labor movement, the environmental justice movement, and other progressive movements.

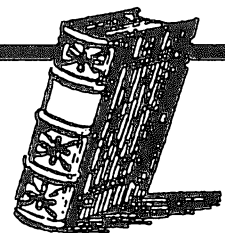
Fear at Work: Job Blackmail, Labor and the Environment, paper \$14.95. Debunks the unfounded corporate threats that productivity and job security are inherently at odds with environmental protection and worker safety. Provides common ground for labor, environmental, and community activists and points the way toward economic structures that respect the demands of a fragile planet.

Putting Power in its Place, paper \$9.95. Advocates bringing economic and political control back home to the community. This book identifies the vested interests that benefit from the abuse of our communities and shares the inspiring stories of several communities that have reclaimed their power to determine their own destinies.

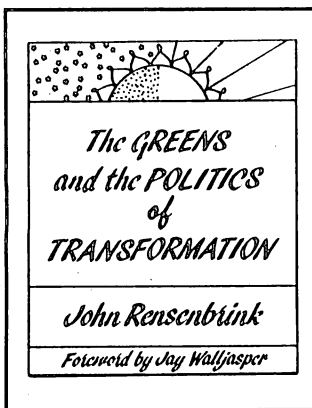
War Tax Resistance: A Guide to Withholding Your Support from the Military, paper \$14.95. Provides support and practical advice for everyone resisting or considering resisting war taxes. Chapters on the philosophical and political questions around tax resistance, the history of war tax resistance, and on legal tax objection. This is an invaluable reference for anyone concerned about the impact of militarism.

To order, or for a New Society Publishers catalog, contact 4527 Springfield Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143, 215-382-6543.

The Greens and the Politics of Transformation



"Readers looking for a whole new brand of politics — a path that moves us toward the kind of future we really desire rather than leaving us stuck in angry reaction to the actions of today's ruling elite — will find both inspiration and practical suggestions here. John challenges us all to move beyond the reflexive politics of mere protest to a fuller politics of transformation — a spiritual as well as a social revolution that summons the strengths of our hearts and our imagination in reshaping modern life." — from the Foreword by Jay Walljasper, editor, *The Utne Reader*



The second half of the book focuses on "Green Catalyst from Below: Organizing Our Transformation," with chapters such as The Quest for Community, Green Movement & Green Party, and Leadership Among the Greens.

The book is recommended by such people as Petra Kelly of the German Greens, author Hazel Henderson, and Sara Parkin of the U.K. Green Party.

Copies of the book are available for \$14.95 + \$1.50 postage (+ sales tax for CA residents) from R & E Miles, PO Box 1916, San Pedro CA 90733.

Facing Reality

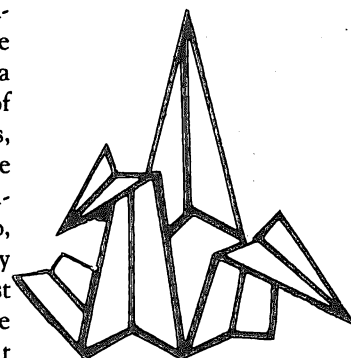
The Future of the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex

Facing Reality grew out of an April, 1991 meeting of members of the Military Production Network and other groups and individuals concerned with nuclear weapons issues. Contributors include members of a wide range of citizens' groups, such as the Snake River Alliance in Idaho, the Tri-Valley Citizens Against a Radioactive Environment from around Livermore Weapons Lab in California, and Physicians for Social Responsibility.

The report is being circulated to members of Congress and their staffs, as well as state and local officials, journalists, and activists around the country.

Facing Reality presents a comprehensive set of policies stressing the interrelationship of safety, the environment, security, health, employment, and the role of citizen advocacy and oversight. Essays include Downsizing the Complex, Plutonium Recovery, Waste Storage and Disposal, Cleanup, The Fight for Information, and Human Justice.

Facing Reality is a project of the Tides Foundation of San Francisco. Copies of the report are available for \$2.50 from the Nuclear Safety Campaign, 1914 34th Street, Suite 407, Seattle WA 98103. Bulk rates available.



Skipping Stones

A Multi-Cultural Children's Quarterly Forum

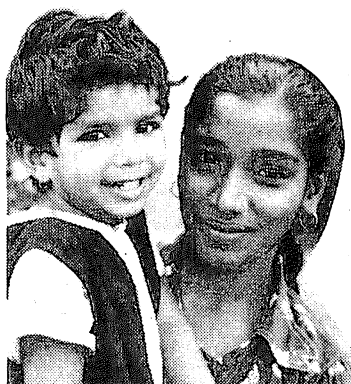
Skipping Stones is a non-profit children's magazine that encourages cooperation, creativity and celebration of cultural and

linguistic diversity. We wish to explore and learn stewardship of the ecological web that sustains us.

Skipping Stones is gentle and positive in its outlook. Yet we are not afraid to probe difficult issues such as war, homelessness, or death and loss. Thematic issues have included Earth Day, the Land and People of the Soviet Republics, a Spanish/English bilingual issue, and an upcoming issue on Native Societies of the Americas.

Submissions are welcome in all languages.

Subscriptions are \$15/year, or \$4 for a sample issue. Contact PO Box 3939, Eugene OR 97403-0939, 503-342-4956.



In Maharashtra, India.



Mayan children in Guatemala.

Food Not Bombs Activists
Publish New Book — See
Page 29

Announcements

Building a Rational Transportation System

Can the United States overhaul its ailing transportation systems with cleaner and more efficient technologies *without* jeopardizing the national economy? David Morris, co-founder and director of the Institute for Local Self Reliance (ILSR), has recently outlined the possibilities in his monograph *Getting From Here to There: Building a Rational Transportation System*.

Morris discusses new transportation and communication technologies that, through proper utilization, could redetermine the ways we get around. He also explores fiscal policies and community planning methods that reduce the need for travel or encourage alternate modes of transportation.

Founded in 1974, ILSR is a non-profit research and educational organization that provides technical assistance to community organizations, cities, and the private sector. Copies of *Getting From Here to There* are available from ILSR for \$4.50. Contact ILSR, 2425 18th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009, 202-232-4108.

Sixteen Weeks with European Greens

by Mike Feinstein

Part travelogue, part political science, and part historical document, this 700-page book is a close up look at European Green Parties from the end of the Cold War and the opening of Eastern Europe, to German unification and the latest developments of the European Common Market.

Mike Feinstein of the International Working Group of the U.S. Greens visited Green Parties in 12 Western and Eastern European countries, and attended several international Green Party conferences. This is an important resource for those worldwide who are interested in the progress of Green issues and the practice of Green politics.

\$17 plus \$3 shipping (CA residents add 8.25% sales tax) from R & E Miles, PO Box 1916, San Pedro CA 90733.

Reclaim Ground Zero at Nevada Test Site. Actions are being planned.

Contact PO Box 492, Lancaster CA, 93584, 805-948-6291, fax 805-723-7194.

Environmental Justice Act Before Congress

The Environmental Justice Act of 1992 has been introduced in the United States Congress. Senator Al Gore, Jr. and Representative John Lewis have jointly introduced S.2806 and H.R. 53246. The purpose of the Environmental Justice Act is "To establish a program to ensure nondiscriminatory compliance with environmental, health and safety laws and to ensure equal protection of the public health."

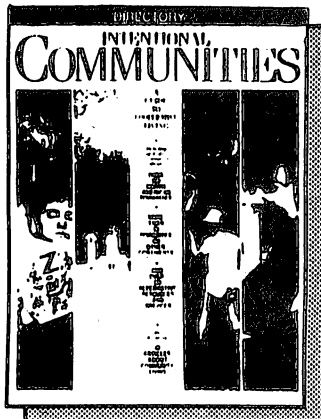
The United Church of Christ's Commission for Racial Justice, which also initiated the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, helped to develop the initial concept for this legislation and has asked for active support.

For more information, contact the offices of Senator Gore or Representative Lewis, or Benjamin Chavis at the Commission for Racial Justice, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY, 10115, Rm. 1948; (212) 870-2077.

Midwest Eco-Anarchist Network (MEAN) came together recently, and issued a call for other areas to form regional networks. For newsletter and info, PO Box 485, Bemidji MN 56601.

Alternatives ...

The *Directory of Intentional Communities* is the product of two years of intensive research, and is the most comprehensive and accurate directory available. It documents the vision and the daily life of more than 350 communities in North America, and more than 50 on other continents. Each community's listing includes name, address, phone, and a description of the group. Extensive cross-referencing and indexing makes the information easy to access for a wide variety of users. Includes maps, over 250 additional Resource listings, and 40 related articles.



328 pages
8-1/2x11
Perfectbound
October 1990
ISBN Number:
0-9602714-1-4
\$16.00
Add \$2.00 postage
& handling for first
book, \$.50 for each
additional; 40%
discount on orders
of 10 or more.

Alpha Farm, Deadwood, OR
(503) 964-5102

Keep Up With Student Organizing

SEAC Newsletter Keeps You In Touch

Threshold is the national newsletter of the Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC).

Recent features have included Womynspace, Organizing Urban Youth, and Environmental Racism.

Individual memberships are \$15 for students/youth, \$50 for others. Campus group rate is \$30. Contact Threshold and SEAC at PO Box 1168, Chapel Hill NC 27514-1168.



Announcements

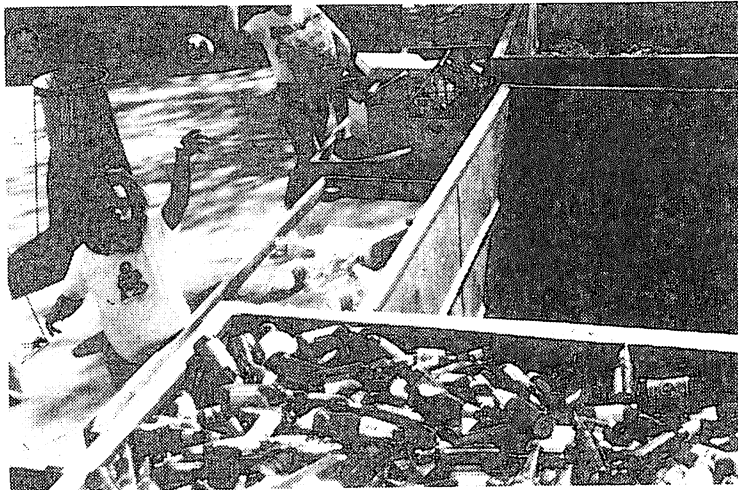
Peoples Park Struggle Moves to Courts

Two lawsuits stemming from the University of California's attempt to desecrate Peoples Park [see Fall 1991 issue] are moving forward.

The University filed a SLAPP lawsuit, aimed at fining and legally harrasing several Park organizers. Defense against this suit has already cost thousands of dollars, and no settlement is in sight, as the University uses its legal department to attack South Berkeley. For more information on this suit, call 510-525-5054.

Several Southside activists have filed a sexual assault and harrasment case against a U.C. policeman. The trial is set for October 6 in San Francisco Federal Court. For more information, call 510-644-2606.

Environmental/Political Satirist Dave Lippman is available for bookings. Show features George Stump, moderate clearcutter from the Environmental Prevention Agency; George Shrub, singing CIA agent; and Seymour, downwardly mobile yuppie (Dumpie). Sliding scale arrangements. Contact Dave Lippman, PO Box 10764, Oakland CA 94610, (510) 893-5845.



Green City Volunteer Network

Planet Drum Foundation has organized a Green City Volunteer Network in San Francisco, for people who like to work outdoors and get hands-on experience in habitat restoration, urban gardening, tree planting, creek restoration, wild animal care, or recycling. Planet Drum refers volunteers to over fifty groups. For more information contact Linzy at Planet Drum, 415-285-6556.

Heileman Boycott Called

Members of the American Indian Movement and the Wisconsin Greens have called for a boycott of G. Heileman Brewing Company products because of Heileman's production of a malt liquor named after the famous Oglala Sioux warrior Crazy Horse.

Heileman brands include: Blatz; Colt 45; Ranier; Mickey's; St. Ides; and La Crosse mineral water.

Or express your displeasure by contacting: G. Heileman Brewing Co, attn: Thomas J. Rattigan, PO Box 459, La Crosse WI 54602, 608-785-1000.

People Of Color Environmental Groups Directory—1992

Published by Robert D. Bullard, there are some 200 groups listed in this directory. They are located in 35 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, and Canada. It includes African-American, Latino, Asian and Native American organizations. This directory will prove invaluable for organizing and networking. There are a limited number of copies available through the Mott Foundation, which funded the project. Write: Mott Foundation Building, Flint MI 48502 or call (313)238-5651.

Nevada Test Site

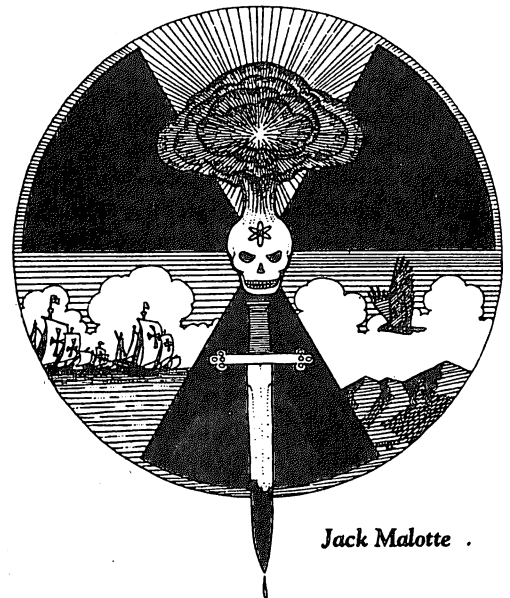
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the All-Nations Healing Ceremony for Mother Earth.

Sunday, October 11: Multi-Cultural Rally and Mass Nonviolent Action. Cultural Performance from many nations and cultures will pay tribute to 500 Years of Indigenous Resistance. Mass nonviolent direct action—continuing the resistance—will follow.

Monday, October 12: Commemoration of 500 Years of Resistance.

Detailed informational registration packets will be available soon. Everyone is urged to pre-register. A donation will be



Jack Malotte

asked to offset costs. An excellent organizing kit is available to assist people in organizing in their own communities.

American Peace Test is a national alliance of local peace, justice and environmental groups and activists with a coordinating center in Las Vegas. Since 1985, APT has waged a campaign of nonviolent direct action and public education to stop testing as the first step toward disarmament.

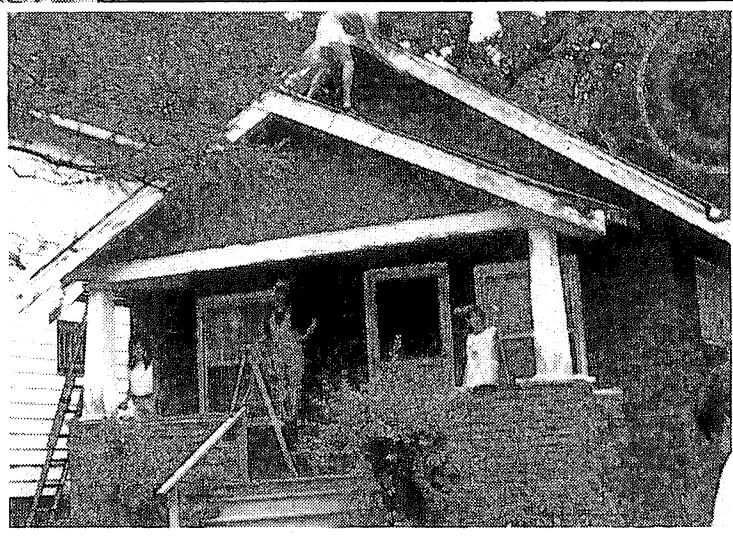
APT publishes the "Test Banner," which carries reports and analysis of resistance to nuclear testing in the United States and around the world.

Contact APT at PO Box 26725, Las Vegas, NV 89126, (702) 386-9834.



"I've learned more about being in the community," said Theda Rogers, an African American woman studying veterinary medicine at the University of Michigan. "I'm thinking a lot about what I want to do. Do I want to give up and move somewhere else, or do I want to stay and help out? This shows me there's things I can do."

"Nobody else is doing anything like this around here," said Ishmael Ledesma, a youth who lives a few blocks from the site of a Detroit Summer mural. "This image Detroit has is terrible, but this is a great city. Helping the community, trying to get some peace from the gangs — it's about time somebody did something like this."



The Greens & Detroit Summer

by Amy J. Belanger

Detroit Summer received rave reviews at the 1992 Greens Gathering in Minneapolis, MN. (Look for a video about it, available this fall through the Clearinghouse.) The community projects in Detroit made a difference in people's lives; the solidarity shown by youth from around the country with the Detroit community was inspiring. Activists of color in kindred organizations saw in our support for Detroit Summer reason to take The

The Green News pages are produced in cooperation with The Greens, a national network of local organizing groups.

Greens' commitment to multicultural politics more seriously and appreciatively.

We plan to work with Detroit Summer organizers to produce a written summation of the project, so that it can serve as a model for other urban restoration projects, known in The Greens as Green Cities projects. So far, Green Cities projects are planned for Syracuse, NY; Los Angeles, CA; and Pensacola, FL. We expect other cities to adopt the idea, since The Greens are sponsoring Green Cities projects as part of our 1992/93 Greens National Action Plan.

This year, we received letters asking why Detroit Summer was chosen as a Greens project. These letters showed us that The Greens are still being labeled

"environmentalists," and to some, it didn't make sense that "environmentalists" were involved in urban crises.

Greens respond to this kind of question in several ways. First, we consider ourselves "ecologists," in the broadest sense of the word. Rather than focusing narrowly on the physical environment (i.e.: trees and streams), we are working to articulate both the common roots of environmental and social crises, and to show that environmental concerns apply to the urban environment and to socio-political environments of people living in cities. These connections can be shown in activism around food — an obvious core issue for environmentalists and social

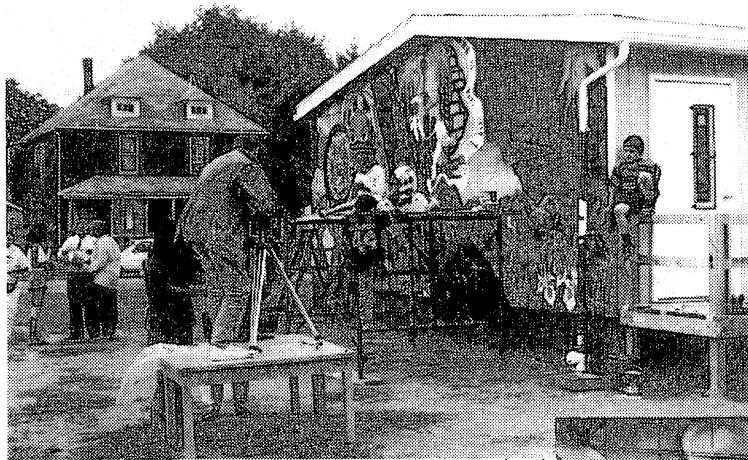
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Detroit Summer

Greens join local groups to create a model for reclaiming cities and building community

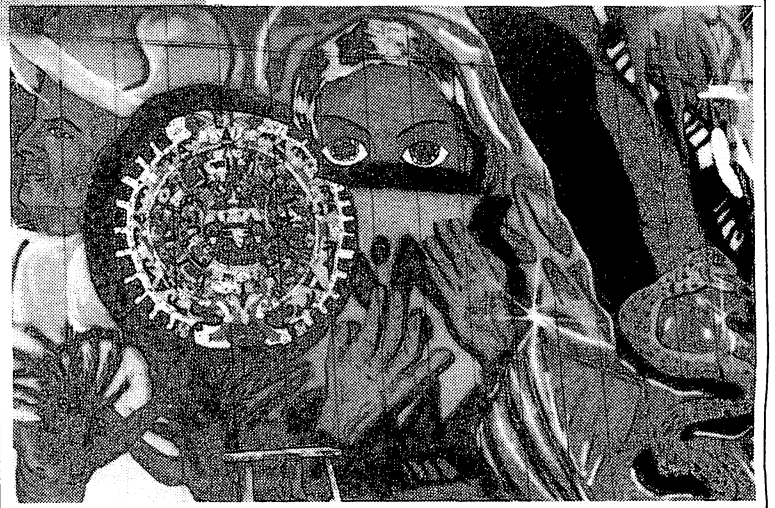


"Jimmy and I knew it had to go far beyond rebellion, to establishing a whole new social order," said Grace Lee Boggs of herself and husband James Boggs, longtime Detroit activists. "That's when, for us, the idea of Detroit Summer was born. We have to establish new relationships — between old people and young, between workers and unemployed, between the educated and those who have never been to school, between the poor and the middle class, between all of us and the earth. We have to rebuild from the ground up."



Page 47 photos by Brian Chambers. Page 46 upper by Bob Moustakas; lower by Margo Adair.

Quotes are from a feature story on Detroit Summer which appeared in the Detroit Metro Times, August 12, 1992. For reprints, contact the Metro Times or GroundWork.





Healing Rifts

Community and Organization in the Fifth Greens Gathering

It was a moment at the very end of this year's Gathering in Minneapolis that captured its deeper significance for me. As Caroline Estes, who has been with The Greens from the beginning as plenary facilitator at every gathering, announced her retirement, she said that in the early days of the Greens there was a great deal of mistrust, egotism, and competitiveness. "Now," she said, "you have love, trust, and unity, and with these three things you can do anything."

—Joseph Boland

by Joseph Boland and Amy Belanger, with Diana Spalding and David Shlosberg

Overview

For the past two years, Greens national work has focused on restructuring, drafting and adopting a Program, the first national action plan, and evolving and articulating the structure and political orientation of a national Greens organization. This infrastructure work was sometimes criticized as bureaucratic, and irrelevant to current political events. But groundwork must be laid when a movement is built, and the past two years of organization-building is paying off, with a common framework for over eighty nationally elected coordinators and even more active movement-builders on the ground doing local organizing, participating in national actions, running for office, and marching in the streets.

Alongside and related to this process, a national community of Green activists was being forged: a group of people with personal knowledge of and loyalty to each other, for whom the obligations to consult, to speak forthrightly, and to accept accountability are second nature; who demonstrate by their actions a continual willingness to align their energies and abilities with the needs of the whole. That such a community has evolved is a remarkable achievement. During the past year and at the Minneapolis gathering a number of events variously challenged and strengthened it.

A rift that had developed between some of the leadership of the Green Party of California (GPCa) and The Greens was one of the most serious of these. At the

gathering, members of the Green Council and Coordinating Committee met with a delegation from the GPCa in two nighttime mediation sessions August 4th and 5th. These sessions made it clear that the vast majority of California Greens have no desire to "secede" from The Greens, but that a small group of individuals in the GPCa had blocked communication with the national organization and promoted the idea of splitting from it. Now, however, the composition of the state coordinating committee has changed substantially, and divisiveness has subsided. In addition, the mediation sessions contributed to a climate of greater trust and understanding

mittee members may request other CC members to keep records of their official communications, to alleviate internal accountability problems; and open meetings are required at all levels of the Greens (with the exception of mediations). Additionally, the Mediation Council's role was expanded to include maintaining a facilitation team for future gatherings and Council meetings.

A less successful aspect of The Greens as a national community is the persistence of its "whiteness." The formation last year of the People of Color and Green Justice caucuses, along with the presence of several experienced activists of color in the national leadership, seemed to herald an impending transformation that has not come to pass. If this year's gathering delegates are representative, we still have an overwhelmingly Euro-American membership alongside a tenuously multicultural national leadership. There are encouraging signs of change in some parts of the country, however. In California,



Greens carry windmill-signs at the 1992 Gathering march

that was important to working out substantive issues around electoral work during the Congress, and creating a balance and a synergy we need to appreciate and preserve.

Among their many contributions to the Greens, Mediation Council proposals adopted by the Congress helped ensure improved communication and inclusivity in the future. Now, the Coordinating Com-

mittee proposal by Kwazi Nkrumah to allocate one-third of the state Coordinating Committee seats to people of color was adopted. Martha Fellows reports that in some parts of the state, such as Los Angeles county, this has brought capable and energetic activists of color into the state party. On the national level, the 1992/93 national action plan includes Green Justice and Green Cities themes (see below), and it is likely



that next year's gathering will be held in Los Angeles.

On the electoral scene, this year's gathering laid to rest questions about whether electoral politics would be an integral part of the broad action repertoire of The Greens. It is, and it will be. The political and personal solidarity needed to make a go of The Greens as an organization inclusive of state Green parties was achieved at Minneapolis. What we must reach for now is an electoral political strategy that can strengthen a movement for a fundamental Green alternative which is both popular and radical. We know that a critical element of such a strategy is multicultural grassroots democracy, and that Green electoral politics must not only speak to the needs of, but directly include and empower, those the present electoral system virtually ignores. Finally, mediation and other "Green conflict resolution processes" will prove essential in minimizing the factionalism and opportunism that can hardly be avoided as we build a third party.

Into the Streets: The March

AWOL, a radical anarchist youth group made up of members of the former youth organization of The Greens, inserted some needed OOMF! into this year's Greens Gathering, by organizing a street theatre march against Northern States Power (NSP). NSP seeks to store radioactive waste on the banks of the Mississippi near the Mewakaton Sioux community. Hundreds turned out for the march, which blocked major intersections and took an unexpected detour into the Clinton rally en route to the NSP headquarters. AWOL's preparations were remarkable, with flags, banners, gas masks, a rolling cart of barrels of "toxic waste," large paper mache fists as statements of physical resistance, and other props. The charged crowd marched through the streets, handing out Green Politics, and blasting political rap songs from a large speaker, along with chants led by AWOL folks with mikes and megaphones. At the NSP site, an "electric kool-aid toxic test" die-in was staged, as several dozen Greens drank from colored kool-aid and dropped dead on the spot, before the irritated eyes of NSP bureaucrats. But the dead soon rose to the sounds of rap and boogied all over the platform, as some



Street theatre at the Greens Gathering, initiated by AWOL. Activists worshipped barrels of "toxic waste," then staged a die-in before the eyes of Northern States Power bureaucrats.

sneaky Greens snuck to the top of the building to drop a 20 foot anti-nuke banner. The banner hung for quite some time, since the company hacks and security guards were busy buzzing around a shorter wall which several Greens had climbed to display banners and paper mache fists. When a couple of security guards started to get... um... rough, they were told calmly that they might be on the wall themselves if their children were dying of cancer.

The Program Evolves

The Green Program is now called "The Greens/Green Party USA Program: An Evolving Vision," responding to the perception some people had of the Program as the bible of The Greens, despite the statement in its Foreword that declares it "a living document that remains open to further democratic development and change." The new name will help to give Greens, especially new members, a stronger sense of involvement.

A Green Platform development process was launched, addressing the need for Green political statements that could appeal to large constituencies outside our membership and outside the progressive community. Support for a Green Platform figured prominently in the larger effort to include and empower state Green parties within the national organization.

National Structure

This year, we will incorporate as a na-



tional political committee and will have a single board (Council) for the organization. The Green Council's composition was changed to allow states to choose delegates to the Green Council, through elections at the annual gathering of functional state Greens confederations. The Congress reaffirmed that participation in the national organization is based on dues-paying membership and local chapters. (Eighty percent of membership dues pay for membership publications and services, which are crucial to informed decision-making by members. State Greens organizations should encourage members who want to participate in the national organization to become dues-paying members of The Greens.) An Electoral Action Working Group (EAWG) was created. The EAWG is charged with facilitating the exchange of information and ideas on electoral activism; accreditation of state Green parties; fundraising for Green electoral work; and helping to coordinate electoral actions with issue-campaigns, community organizing, and other forms of extra-electoral ac-

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Greens 1992 National Gathering

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tivity. EAWG will consist of one voting member from each state or multi-state region and one member each from the People of Color Caucus and Green Youth Network, and is accountable to the national electoral policy of The Greens/Green Party USA. The Congress adopted accreditation guidelines for state Green parties, which require that, to be accredited, "a state Green Party, Green candidate, Green elected official, or Green electoral endeavor shall: (1) explicitly affirm the Ten Key Values; and (2) be willing to engage in Green conflict resolution processes, upon request of any Green local or state confederation active in the same state as the accredited electoral formation." In addition, a state party must not be opposed by a majority of affiliated locals, nor by a majority vote of active national dues-paying members, in that state.

From Post-Patriarchal Values to Feminism

The Key Value "post-patriarchal values" has become "feminism". As the proposal drafters put it, "'post-patriarchal values' suggests more about the present patri-

archal society we live in today than about the society we are building. 'Post' implies our values are coming out of values based on patriarchy. In this thinking, patriarchy remains the building block of our new value system." There was considerable opposition to adopting feminism as a value. Some objected to it as an "ism", others saw it as divisive and polarizing. In the end, feminism was adopted by exactly the minimum required (75 percent).

Men and Women as Allies

During the gathering, a dynamic and inspired Women's Caucus met over meals to build women's participation in The Greens. The women also addressed the concern that feminism has been limited by a tendency to generalize from the experiences of Western, Euro-American, and middle-class women, inadvertently disenfranchising women of color and working class women. Green women made a commitment to broadening Green Feminism to include the experiences and support the



empowerment of poor women, women of color, and Third World women. They created the Women's Leadership Fund, to fund travel and trainings for Green women; and insisted that all future gatherings include paid childcare (accepted).

The M.E.N. (Men Evolving Naturally) caucus affirmed that feminism is also for men in that it challenges gender stereotypes which impoverish us as well as subordinate women. In a moving and provocative workshop on becoming allies for each other, given jointly by the Women's Caucus and the M.E.N. Caucus, it became clear that both sexes felt oppressed by the strict gender roles our society imposes, and by the fact that oppression of women necessitates unwanted boundaries between women and men. Men and women alike acknowledged that sexism is a serious problem within the Greens, as well as in the alternative/progressive movements as a whole. The rise of a new generation of women to leadership in the Greens has been one of the most exciting and important developments this year.

Green Youth

The Campus Greens Network changed its name to the Green Youth Network (GYN), to reflect a commitment to including non-student youth (plus, we all like the acronym!). The Green Youth Network defines itself as "the official youth and student organization of the Greens/Green Party USA." Howard Brotine was chosen as the primary GYN contact, and will provide support from the

1992/93 Green Action Plan

Solar Power through Community Power: Greens in New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, Chapel Hill, and other places where this project has taken root will expand on their ongoing efforts.

Green Cities: in addition to renewing Greens' commitment to Detroit Summer ('93) we will facilitate campaigns in the spirit of Detroit Summer in other cities where Greens have developed alliances with community organizations in the inner city (e.g., Syracuse, Los Angeles, Pensacola).

Green Justice: a Green Justice Clearinghouse will be established in Minneapolis; a Green Justice Leadership Fund will support organizing expenses; an introductory bilingual brochure about Green Justice politics will be produced; a strong campaign to bring women of color to Green politics and organizations; a network will be set up with international Greens of Color and kindred organizations around the world in coordination with the International Working Group, and Green Justice will be the theme of next year's gathering.



Greens Clearinghouse, where he currently works as a volunteer. Coordinators were chosen for educational materials production, fundraising, international networking, social justice campaigns, and educational democracy action.

Endorsements

1) A Green Toxics Working Group will "support and publicize toxics work by Green locals, develop a bibliography of toxics literature, and prepare Green toxics literature when necessary." 2) "The Food Circle: Actions to Build Sustainable Food Systems," includes efforts to preserve agricultural land, support farmworkers, develop new community-farm ties (such as community supported agriculture projects), protect and propagate bioregionally adapted seed strains, and enhance bioregional agricultural networking. Both projects will have their own core groups and will be responsible for most fundraising and coordination.

Resolutions

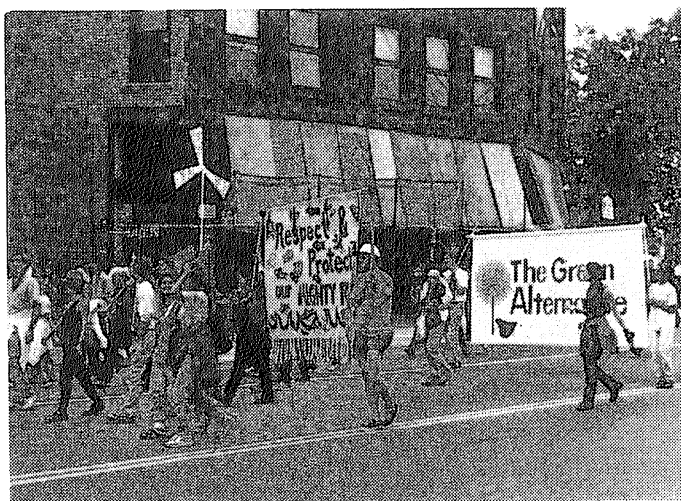
1) The Greens support the San Carlos Apache Tribal Council's efforts to stop construction of a telescope on Emerald Peak of Dził nnnchaa sian (Mt. Graham), land which is their ancestral home. 2) The Greens urge the U.S. Congress to make amendments to the Native American Religious Freedom Act to protect Native American religions, practices, and sacred sites.

Budget & Finance Chronicles

The Congress adopted the Clearinghouse staff's proposals concerning membership services, financial structure, 1993 budget priorities, and economic principles, along with minimal and median budgets for 1993. These, along with a set of core and programmatic budget priorities, should allow us to better manage our income and expenditures this year. The Congress also affirmed that the financial health of The Greens is the responsibility of all Greens, not just the Council, and certainly not just the staff. Our financial situation remains bleak, and we're in dire need of equipment. To help with fundraising or a loan, call the Clearinghouse.

New Membership Package

Active and sustaining members will now receive a Green publication each month, alternating between Green Politics, a newsletter about Greens activism and organizing; GroundWork (formerly Green Letter), containing news and perspectives about The Greens and kindred movements; and Regeneration, The Greens new theoretical journal (to replace Green Synthesis). Other membership benefits will include a new, improved organizing kit, with sections on grassroots fundraising and non-profit office management. Membership cards are in the works, complete with discounts on Green merchandise and possible discounts from "earth & people friendly" stores.



The Greens Economics Training

The first Greens Economics Training was held in Minneapolis, August 2-5, directly preceding the annual national Greens Gathering. The purpose of the ETP was to bring together Greens interested in Economics for learning, sharing ideas, brainstorming, etc., and seemed to serve its purpose well. 218 people attended the ETP from across the U.S. and Canada (including many folks from Alaska).

Michael Albert, co-founder of Z Magazine, and co-author of "Looking Forward, Participatory Economics for the 21st Century", started off the ETP on Sunday night with a keynote address on Participatory Economics, followed by a lengthy question and answer period with an energetic audience. A few of the highlights were Michael

Albert's workshops all day Monday, in which he covered various aspects of creating a participatory economic system; workshops everyday by Ellen Frank and Jim Westrich from the Center for Popular Economics on Basic Economics for Activists, Economics and Race/Class/Gender Issues, Policy Issues for Greens, and Ask Me Anything sessions; a popular afternoon panel on the Labor and Ecology Connection; and a special full day option on Tuesday on Creating Green Intentional Communities, led by Caroline Estes. Other special features included a spirited debate/discussion Monday night on Participatory Economics and the Market, between Michael Albert, Ellen Frank, and the audience; a Tuesday evening panel on the GATT negotiations; and a closing panel Wednesday afternoon titled "Where Do We Go From Here?" which many of the workshop presenters took part in.

Mail regarding the ETP is welcome and still flowing to: Greens ETP P.O. Box 3573 Boulder, Colorado 80307.

Conclusion

No one can refute that The Greens have entered a new stage in their history. This Gathering definitively tested the new democratic

structure, the newly elected leadership, the groundbreaking mediation council, the integration of electoral and extra-electoral strategies, the willingness of Greens to confront difference and still work together as a family, our ability to build alliances with other organizations and to empower one another. We passed the test, and the organization is visibly strengthened and energized. We have other tests ahead, and we have significant areas that need work. But as Caroline Estes remarked as she announced her retirement, The Greens have grown up.

*For more information, contact
The Greens Clearinghouse —
see page 57 for details.*



Developments in the Alternative Party Movement

by *Howie Hawkins and Amy Belanger with Jodean Marks*

Greens in Electoral Politics

For the first time in decades, the two parties are genuinely and indisputably challenged by a range of independent alternative movements. As other third party initiatives emerge, Greens must carefully decide which initiatives we can ally with, and how to proceed. Only by building principled unity among the various third party initiatives can we hope to build a lasting challenge the two-party stranglehold on the U.S. electoral system.

By principled unity, Greens mean that unity has to be built community-by-community, from the bottom-up, and "based on broad common principles about the kind of society we want to create and how we should go about creating it." Principled unity stands opposed to the superficial unity that sacrifices goals and vision in the name of "getting along."

Already, the potential for operational unity among the different parties exists — the alternative movements agree on 90% of the issues. This being the case, the time is right to participate in building a network that supports real communication among the various organizations committed to independent politics.

National People's Progressive Convention

Appropriately, the umbrella now being used by many alternative organizations and party initiatives is initiated by people of color and has shown effective leadership in building a truly multicultural formation that empowers workers, women, youth, and other oppressed groups. Ron Daniels and Asiba Tupahache's Campaign for a New Tomorrow spearheaded a National People's Progressive Convention, in Ypsilanti Michigan, which brought together around 300 people, committed to fundamental social change. By the end of the weekend, the convention had achieved its basic goal. A network of organizations committed to independent political action

was formed: the National People's Progressive Network (NPPN).

Reds, Greens, and Blacks

The convention had the most diversified mix of "reds, greens, and blacks" of any national meeting to date. There were many socialist groups: Trotskyist League, Fourth Internationalist Tendency, Freedom Socialist Party, Solidarity, and a split off from Socialist Action that is pushing a Labor Party Organizing Network. Also in attendance were members of the Socialist Party, the Committees of Correspondence (a democratic socialist tendency that has been formed this year principally by people who recently left the Communist Party); and the National Committee for Independent Political Action (NCIPA). Many of the socialists have become members of Labor Party Advocates, the organization that Tony Mazzocchi of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers is building, which did not endorse the convention.

About 25 Greens were at the conven-

a member of the Huron Valley Greens and one of the organizers of the conference, was asked to give greetings to the conference on behalf of environmentalists. She pointed out that the Greens are not only environmentalists, but advocate that environmentalists embrace struggles for social justice and grassroots democracy as part of the struggle for an ecological society because the misuse and abuse of the environment and the misuse and abuse of people in our society share the same roots. The Greens' broader vision genuinely was news to many present, illustrating that Greens still struggle with the "environmentalist" label.

Ron Daniels repeatedly affirmed the importance of the Greens to the independent political movement. In a working group meeting on multi-racial coalition building, Daniels said that of all the national independent party efforts, he felt that the Greens had been the most committed to building multi-racial alliances.

Daniels shares the Greens' perspective of a diverse alliance of groups rather than the hegemony of the working class. He is especially concerned to avoid a repeat of the racism and paternalism that has relegated the concerns of people of color to the back burner in so many past movements — notably the labor and socialist/communist movements of the 20th century. Most of the people of color at the gathering were African-Americans associated with Daniel's



presidential campaign. Indeed, there was only one Chicano, one Native American, and one Puerto Rican in attendance, though efforts are being made to remedy this in the Network.

presidential campaign. Indeed, there was only one Chicano, one Native American, and one Puerto Rican in attendance, though efforts are being made to remedy this in the Network.

Independent and Radical

What the overwhelming majority did agree on was probably best expressed by Ron Daniels in his plenary speech giving the "Charge to the Convention." After be-

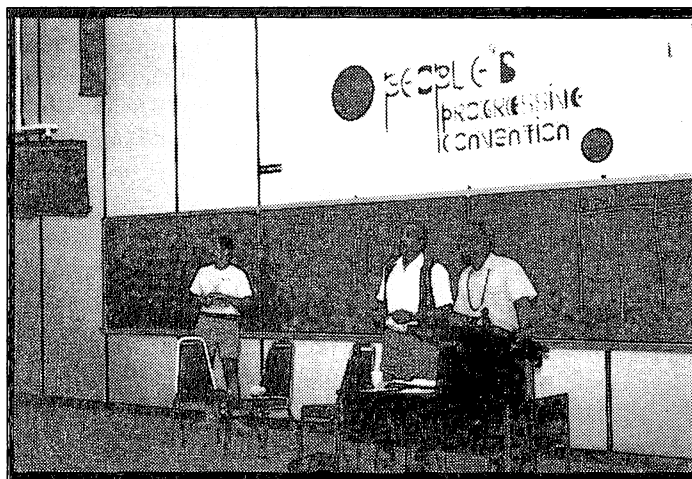


ing introduced by Amy Belanger of the Greens, he noted how his attendance at the 1991 Green Gathering in Elkins had been a "turning point" in his campaign. He then quoted from the statement of the founding convention of the National Black Political Assembly in Gary, Indiana, noting how the problems it identified and the independent politics it called for could have been written today and are as relevant as ever. Daniels called for new participatory political structures that would enable grassroots people to participate in formulating policy, and then monitor their elected representatives, for new democratic economic structures based on decentralized, cooperative worker and community ownership, and for near total elimination of the U.S. military budget. Daniels went on to say how he "used to talk about an inside/outside strategy" of supporting progressive Democrats and running progressive independents against mainstream Democrats, but that he now intends to focus on building an independent party on the outside. He lamented how black elected officials had become part of the system, "trying to manage the mess," instead of being connected to a popular movement and using the office to expose the system and provide leadership in direct action for fundamental change. When it came to deciding on the principles of unity, purpose, and structure for the National People's Progressive Network, among changes made to the proposed draft were those that strengthened the commitment to independent politics and economic democracy. Some people, notably those in NCIPA committed to the "inside/outside" strategy, objected to language that said the NPPN would only support candidates independent of the Democrats and Republicans, but the language passed overwhelmingly by about 10-1.

Principles of Unity

The Principles of Unity were discussed in a Congress-like setting and ratified. The principles included democratic rights and decision-making; human needs before profit; self-determination for all peoples; full reproductive rights for all women; workers' rights to organize and receive a living wage; the right of all to basic necessities: food, decent housing, a job, ed-

ucation, health care, and equal protection under the law; a clean, safe environment; opposition to all forms of discrimination based on race, gender, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual preference, and disabilities; opposition to militarism and violence that is not self-defensive; opposition to military intervention, economic colonialism and



neo-colonialism, and political interference in the sovereign affairs of any other nation; and support of land and treaty rights for indigenous and African American people.

Interim Structure

In contrast to so many national coalitions in the past where "balanced slates" to fill out a coordinating committee were brought in by the planning committee and rubber stamped by the conference, this time the structure proposed by the planning committee was reworked by the conference. The meeting had a very democratic feel. The caucuses functioned very well and not only gave various social and interest groups time to confer, but simply broke the meeting up into smaller groups that enabled more participation. What the meeting came up with is a Coordinating Committee of about 60 consisting of 1 representative from every endorsing organization, 6 from the People of Color Caucus, 4 from the Women's Caucus, 4 from the Youth Caucus, 2 from each of 6 regions, 1 from each independent party, 2 from the Lesbian/Gay Caucus, and 2 from the Labor Caucus. The Coordinating Committee then selected 10 of its members as a Steering Committee to oversee the day-to-day

development of the NPPN. Amy Belanger was selected by the Greens present to represent the Greens/Green Party USA on the Coordinating Committee and was elected by the Coordinating Committee to be on the Steering Committee. Regional meetings of the NPPN are the next step. We encourage Greens to support and participate in them. NPPN is exactly the structure we need to build alliances, joint actions, and greater unity among the radical wing of the independent political movement.

Those Who Stayed Away

Labor Party Advocates, the organization that Tony Mazzocchi of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers is building, did not endorse the convention. Nor did the 21st Century Party that is growing out of the National Organization for Women. The New Party did endorse the convention, but only two New Party people were present as far as we know.

Tony Mazzocchi of Labor Party Advocates is straight up about getting labor together before thinking about unity with other sectors. Mazzocchi is more like European Greens than Social Democrats on environmental and economic issues. He is skeptical of electoral reformism and emphasizes building social power from below outside the electoral arena. But will his views prevail once the Labor Party Advocates start meeting? LPA's plan now is to form 100 local committees to recruit an average of 1000 members each. When 100,000 members are signed up, a national convention will be held, perhaps at the end of 1993 or in 1994.

The New Party

Like the 21st Century Party, the New Party seems more like the reformist European Social Democrats in their basic ori-

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Alternative Party Building

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entation, but like the Greens, they have a strategy of building from the bottom up. However, they have already established themselves as pro-economic growth, with little more than a tip-of-the-hat to the environment. Ironically, the New Party offers its pro-growth appeal to labor in a time when progressive labor organizations are beginning to address issues of ecological sustainability. In its national advertising, the New Party calls for a "green party that is more than an environmental party," with no mention of the fact that such a party already exists. Still, by sending two representatives to the People's Progressive Convention, the New Party seems to be at least testing the waters.

21st Century Party

Initiated by the Commission for Responsive Democracy that the National Organization for Women set up in 1990, the 21st Century Party is based primarily on the women's movement around NOW. The 21st Century Party is officially friendly and encouraging to other independent progressive and radical parties. But they are not going out of their way to work with them either. When the Commission for Responsive Democracy set up the six convenors, many of us expected that they would try to include Greens, Project New Tomorrow, Labor Party Advocates, and so forth in their planning. A February 1992 article in *Z* magazine co-authored by Mel King also gave the impression that the organizing process would be more inclusive, with local meetings preceding a national meeting. But in the end they decided to form their own separate party at a national meeting rather than serve as a vehicle for convergence and grassroots participation in the conception of the party.

From Here to There

Although the better financed party initiatives—21st Century, New Party, and Labor Party Advocates are not yet committed to the National People's Progressive Network; those ideologically and organizationally closest to the Greens are in the Network—Ron Daniels' Project New

Tomorrow, state third parties like Wisconsin's Labor-Farm, California's Peace and Freedom, Progressive Vermont Alliance, New Jersey's Independents, and Pennsylvania's Consumer, and the many local progressive coalitions, small socialist groupings, and African, Latino, Asian, and Native American groups that want to play a role in a larger independent party. It seems

By talking to members of these parties in our own communities, we may be able to achieve a practical unity from below long before leaderships are ready for it.

to us that these groups should converge first as a more ideologically radical and grassroots action oriented left wing in the independent political movement, much as the Green, Alternative, Regionalist, and Left-Socialist parties in Europe consolidated into a Rainbow Group in the European Parliament to the left of Social Democrats and Eurocommunists. Besides continuing to support a National People's Progressive Network, the Greens should continue building upon our existing base among peace, environmental, and community activists and ideological radicals and build upon our strengths for local organization, direct action, and municipal politics. We also need to build upon our feminist roots and encourage and support women in the Greens to take on leadership roles in the Greens. The Green Women's Leadership Network formalized at the Minneapolis Gathering could play a crucial role in this area. At some point the independent initiatives not participating in the NPPN are probably going to realize the limits of their own base and begin to look seriously at more unity with the other bases. When that time comes, the better organized the Greens are, the more likely our unique contributions—grassroots democracy, decentralized economic democracy, ecological economics and technologies—will be incorporated in a larger independent movement.

But before these various initiatives reach the limit of their initial constituency bases, they will be running candidates. The first time for potential conflict will arise in the 1994 elections. Since 21st

Century is building around state representative districts, it seems to imply an interest in state and national politics, meaning the Greens may have a relatively open field in municipal and county politics. But in 1994, the Greens may face well-financed 21st Century Party, and other third party candidates going for the same seats as Greens. Although there are important political differences between the main lines of the Green and 21st Century parties' politics, in these early stages it would not be productive for the two fledgling

independent parties to be competing in state and national legislative races. Whether through the NPPN or by direct contact, mutual support and minimizing competition for the same seats ought to be worked out. Finally, we would suggest the strategy of a "united front from below." The leaderships of the national and state independent parties have vested interests in their own organizational life. Grassroots people want some change and they don't care as much who gets the credit.

By talking to 21st Century Party, Labor Party Advocates, New Party, etc., members in our own communities, we may be able to achieve a practical unity from below long before leaderships are ready for it.

So what it all means for Greens comes back to building strong grassroots organizations and being active around the issues of the day and relevant to the concerns of the people in our communities. A well-organized, politically well-educated, consistently activist and relevant movement on the ground is what will count in the long run, no matter how the organizational maneuvering at the national level plays itself out.

For a copy of the Green Council statement "Toward Principled Unity in the Alternative Party Movement" and full reports on the People's Progressive Convention, the 21st Century Party's Convention, and Greens Gathering 1993, order the September issue of *The Greens Bulletin* by sending \$5 to The Greens/Green Party USA, PO Box 30208, Kansas City, MO 64112. Or, order a subscription to the *Bulletin* for \$35/year.



Solar Power through Community Power

by Howie Hawkins

The Greens/Green Party USA decided at their 1992 National Gathering in Minneapolis this August to continue for a second year their "Solar Power through Community Power" project. The basic idea behind the project is that No Nukes is not enough. The movement has to struggle to gain the democratic power to institute a policy of using solar-based renewables efficiently in place of nuclear and fossil fuels. As long as energy policy is controlled by the giant energy transnationals and the Department of Energy, the profit and military-power motives and interests of these corporations and bureaucracies will keep our country tied to uranium- and carbon-based energy sources. That means we need decentralized, democratic ownership and control of the energy industry, run as a non-profit public service, in order to take the soft energy path of energy efficiency and solar-based renewable energy sources.

The Greens have been almost alone in 1992 in calling for the shut down of the nuclear power industry. Most of the national environmental groups lined up with the Sun Day Coalition, which called for reduced greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency and renewable energy, but stopped short of demanding No Nukes (let alone economic democracy in the en-

ergy industry).

Fortunately, the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS) has just launched an aggressive campaign aimed at mobilizing grassroots struggles for nuclear shutdowns. It is a campaign the meshes nicely with the Greens' Solar Power through Community Power project, as I will explain at the end of this article.

As part of last year's "Solar Power through Community Power" project, Greens spearheaded some two dozen anti-nuclear demonstrations around the Earth Day/Chernobyl Anniversary period in late April. Under the theme of "Solar Power through Community Power," the demonstrations had four common goals:

- Shut Down Nuclear Power and Phase Out Fossil Fuels
- Phase in the Efficient Use of Solar-based Renewables
- Democratic Public Ownership and Control of the Energy Industry
- A Workers' Superfund to guarantee income and tuition for workers in the transition from nuclear and fossil fuels to renewables

The national media ignored these demos. But they didn't pay much attention to the Sun Day events either. Locally, however, these actions often received good media coverage. Prairie Island near Minneapolis, Point Beach in Wisconsin, Duane Arnold in Iowa, Nine Mile Point and Fitzpatrick near Syracuse, Millstone in Connecticut, and the Ward Valley dump in California were among the nuclear facilities targeted by these actions.

Anti-Nuclear Victories in 1992

Despite the retreat of the broader environmental movement from anti-nuclear demands, the anti-nuclear movement has won three significant victories so far in



1992. The Yankee/Rowe plant in Western Massachusetts and the San Onofre 1 plant near San Diego are closing. Their owners, private utilities, finally realized what the anti-nuke/safe energy movement has been saying for years: it's cheaper to shut these nukes down and institute demand side energy efficiency measures than it is to repair the nukes and keep them going. The Trojan nuke in Oregon is being phased out by 1996. The choice was \$200 million in repairs to the nuke or energy conservation.

Now the same choice faces Turkey Point 1 and 2 in Florida which suffered a minimum of \$300 million damage in Hurricane Andrew. According to an internal Westinghouse/Bechtel document secured by the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS), the nuke only got to cold shut down 10 minutes before the eye of the storm hit. When it did hit, the hurricane knocked out the fire protection system and the security system, damaged the containment building, and completely wiped out the central receiving building. The crew was stuck at the nuke for three days before they could get out by road. 12,000 gallons of oil from an oil-fired generator also located at the Turkey Point complex spilled into a lake. 21% of Florida Power and Light's generating capacity is now knocked out for a minimum of three months. Safe energy activists in Florida and around the country are now demand-

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ing that Turkey Point 1 and 2 be shut down permanently and the energy infrastructure of the "Sunshine State" be regeared toward the efficient use of solar-based renewables.

Federal Legislation for Nuclear Comeback

While the environmental movement has retreated from anti-nuclear demands, Congress has been formulating a National Energy Security Act which has the elements the nuclear industry wants to stage a comeback. A conference committee will be working in September to reconcile the House and Senate versions. Whether it will pass this Congress remains to be seen.

Both versions of the bill include an \$11 billion bailout of the uranium enrichment industry and one-step nuclear licensing, which means once a nuke is given a construction permit it doesn't have to later demonstrate it was built properly in order to begin operating. The Senate version includes a taxpayer subsidy to develop a "designer nuke," i.e., the smaller, standardized model for faster construction and presumably safer operation. Already, Westinghouse is constructing its version of a designer nuke in Japan, which it hopes to showcase as a model to be sold to utilities in the U.S. Both the House and Senate versions have subsidies for so-called "clean coal." The House version has a "screw Nevada" provision pre-empting Nevada's regulatory authority over the proposed Yucca Mountain high-level nuclear waste repository. While the House version affirms state regulatory authority over "below regulatory concern" (BRC) nuclear waste, the Senate version is silent, effectively affirming the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's move to deregulate much nuclear waste and allow it into the normal waste and recycling streams.

BRC is already here. The 10 CFR 20 federal regulatory standards on radiation already allowed for air and water emissions of radioactivity before being revised earlier this year. With the revisions, which changed the units of measure subtly, the exempt quantities and concentrations in

solid waste move much more radioactive solid waste into the BRC category. The NRC wants to go much further. The House version of the National Energy Security Act affirms states' rights to regulate what the NRC considers BRC and revokes the NRC's BRC policies. This is a provision to fight for.

The National Energy Security Act does contain a smattering of funds for renewables, mass transit, and "green" energy taxes and incentives for renewables and conservation, but they hardly represent a major shift in energy priorities from carbon and uranium to the sun.

Meanwhile, George Bush has just approved the import of enriched uranium from dismantled nuclear weapons in Eastern Europe for use in U.S. domestic nuclear power plants. Several Eastern European countries are also shutting down their nuclear power plants. But, unfortunately, it appears they want to buy new ones from U.S. vendors. Foreign business is what has kept the U.S. nuclear industry from folding during the last thirteen years when not one new nuke has been ordered in the U.S. It looks like the foreign market will continue for the next few years anyway.

But the nuclear industry is also expecting to announce the first new plant ordered in the U.S. in 13 years next February, according to the trade publication, *Inside NRC*. Greens in Tennessee, South Carolina, or Florida should watch out—you are in the most likely siting areas.

Anti-Nuclear Work in the Coming Year

NIRS' new anti-nuclear campaign is built around the idea that a good offense is the best defense. Rather than waiting to respond to nuclear industry initiatives, NIRS is taking action.

One action is court action to shut down several of the more than 80 nukes that have used Thermo-Lag as a fire barrier around electrical cables. The problem with this "fire barrier" is that it melts, collapses, and even catches fire.

The action that local Green chapters will find especially suitable is NIRS' Early Warning Network. When NIRS hears of a new reactor site announcement, or radioactive waste dump siting, the network will be called into action to hold coordinated

actions at reactor and dump sites and utility and regulatory offices within a week. It's a Pledge of Resistance for the anti-nuclear movement.

NIRS will also be releasing a new report with U.S. PIRG comparing nuclear industry PAC contributions and congressional votes on nuclear issues. Guess what? Public opinion isn't translating into public policy. Even though 80% of the public opposes BRC, Congress and the courts are going for it. But, of course, that's why we say, solar power *through* community power. Local Green chapters that want to be a co-releaser of the report in early October with a local press conference simultaneous with the national press release should contact NIRS (see address below).

In addition to the Early Warning Network and local anti-nuclear, anti-coal, anti-incinerator, and public power struggles, the Greens' Solar Power through Community Power project is calling again for a Chernobyl Anniversary actions at reactor and dump sites and utility and regulatory offices. Look in the *Green Bulletin* for details as they are developed

Local Participation

I strongly urge Green locals to join the Early Warning Network as part of their Solar Power through Community Power work in the coming year. Each local should take out a membership in NIRS. It's \$35. NIRS needs the money and you'll get a copy of *Nuclear Monitor* every other week with the latest info. Write to NIRS, 1424 16th St., NW, Suite 601, Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 328-0002.

Also contact the Greens' Solar Power through Community Power project as well so that we can network within the Greens. And tell us briefly about your local anti-nuclear, anti-coal, anti-incinerator, and public power struggles. Write to: Solar Power through Community Power, c/o Syracuse Greens, POB 562, Syracuse NY 13205, (315)475-4822.

NIRS has the expertise and closeness to the day-to-day legislative and regulatory developments in Washington. The Greens have a grassroots network of hundreds of local groups. Working together we can make a powerful combination against the well-financed and well-connected nuclear barons.



Educational Access

by Jason Kirkpatrick

This last semester, two members of the Humboldt State University Greens gained seats on the Student Government. Randy Ghent is now the Behavior Studies and Social Sciences Representative, and Jason Kirkpatrick is the new Cal State Student Association Representative. CSSA has endorsed a systemwide campus shutdown on September 23-24, and many Campus Greens Groups throughout the 20 campus system are working on the issue. The SUNY system in New York has recently joined a national coalition of campuses organizing this massive shutdown. The HSU Greens are also actively encouraging students to sue the State of California for its 40% fee hike. This illegal fee increase violates both the state constitution and the two state laws pertaining to student fees. More info: 707-826-5415

Please Send Us Green News!

This issue of Green News features coverage of the National Greens Gathering and other national organizing. Future Green News will focus on local organizing nationwide. *GroundWork* is especially committed to carrying accounts and photographs of Green events and actions.

Submissions to the Green News pages of *GroundWork* are welcome, and should be sent to The Greens Clearinghouse, PO Box 30208, Kansas City, MO 64112. We really like to get material on a Mac disk or over eco-net (email: gpusa). The deadline for the January issue of *GroundWork* is December 1 (no exceptions).

The October issue of *Green Politics*, published by The Greens, will focus on the November elections. Send campaign updates and advice, other electoral action updates, candidate autobiographies, etc, by October 1.

Is Your Group Interested in Affiliating with The Greens?

The Greens are a network of local organizing groups across the country. If your group is interested in affiliating, contact the Clearinghouse. Active members of affiliated groups receive *GroundWork* with their memberships, as well as *Green Politics* and *Regeneration*, the national publications of The Greens.

How to Join The Greens

If you would like more information about Green activity in your area, contact the Greens Clearinghouse.

The Greens Clearinghouse performs a vital function for Green activity and the exchange of Green information. It is always hampered by insufficient funds. You can help with our work by joining or donating to The Greens. Contact:

Greens Clearinghouse
PO Box 30208
Kansas City MO 64112.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Regeneration 5

Special Issue: Education for Democratic Empowerment

Regeneration 5 will focus on the theme of "education for democratic empowerment" at all levels of formal education: primary, secondary and college/university. Today's neo-conservative educational agenda must be replaced with an alternative, radical agenda - one concerned with democratizing schools, and thereby empowering students and teachers. In this way, the development of a culture of democracy in society at large, will be furthered.

We invite Greens and others interested in the radical transformation of education to submit articles for this issue of *Regeneration*. Suggested themes include:

- the rationale for school democratization,
- a vision of the democratic school,
- theories/strategies for democratic empowerment,
- citizenship education,
- democratic school experiences, and
- towards a radical education network.

Submissions should be 500 to 2000 words. We need to receive your material by November 1st, 1992. Please send a printed copy and an unformatted (ASCII) file on an IBM-compatible or Macintosh diskette to: Bruce Lofquist, 238 Lakeshore Road East, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6J 1H8. If you wish to discuss your ideas, call Bruce at (416) 849-3815.

Yes, I want to join The Greens:

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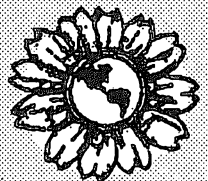
___ Women's Leadership Fund

___ Green Justice Fund

___ Green Youth Network

___ Equipment Drive

___ Green Action Plan



Send to The Greens Clearinghouse, PO Box 30208, Kansas City MO 64112.

Occupational Health

continued from page 6

byssinosis and respiratory illness among garment workers. Most are workers of color.

Construction: Workers are exposed to asbestos, solvents and gases which can cause respiratory problems and possibly cancer. Falls and injuries are also commonplace. In California, 62% of all construction workers are African American and Latino.

As industrial jobs are being lost in the US, and we continue our transformation to an "information and service" based economy, there are new types of hazards facing workers of color. These include the health hazards caused by unemployment and underemployment, lower wages and lack of medical insurance and access to health care. The Center for Working Life (Oakland, CA) reports that for every 1% increase in the nation's unemployment rate:

- 36,887 people die prematurely
- 20,240 suffer fatal heart attacks
- 920 people commit suicide
- 648 of those who have lost their job will murder a spouse, child or neighbor
- 3,340 people are sent to prison
- 4,227 people are committed to mental institutions

The best way to tackle the occupational health crisis faced by workers of color is to empower workers in the workplace and in their communities. However, unemployment and the threat of unemployment, lack of skills and education, and an inability to speak English are decisive factors in keeping workers of color tied to hazardous working conditions.

Organizing is vital for workers if they are to achieve justice and dignity on the job. Strong and aggressive unions are critical but they need to make changes to incorporate workers of color into all levels of leadership and decision-making.

Another shortcoming exists when workers get ill or injured on the job, and the healthcare system is incapable of diagnosing and pinpointing the source of the problem. Health care workers rarely receive more than ten hours of occupational health training during their entire formal education.

The prevention of workplace injuries and deaths calls for stronger regulations and legislation. Many workers of color

work in small shops and are rarely seen by an OSHA inspector and agriculture workers are not protected at all.

Over the next decade, one of the keys to protecting the health of workers and the people living in the surrounding communities will be the reduction of the use of toxics in the workplace. Labor and environmentalists are seeking ways to unite their movements on the issue of removing toxics from work environments.

For more information, contact: *The Labor Occupational Health Program at the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, 2521 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA, 94720, (415) 642-5507.*

Slower Casualties

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numbing necessary to survive is not something you step into and out of easily.

The attitude is betrayed by phrases such as, "It's just dead meat," "Kill 'em all and let God sort 'em out," or "Bomb Hanoi, Bomb Saigon, Bomb Disneyland, Bomb everything." This attitude is about as tangible a thing as you can find. It is all consuming and pervades the soul. You carry it with you when you leave the battlefield. You carry it home, where you live with it. You share it with your family and your friends and your kids, and ultimately with your society. And it is poisonous—"and it alters the very soil in which society's roots are nourished."

It takes time and effort to overcome such detachment—some people never do. To look at any of it is to look at all of it. It can be overwhelming.

In Korea, 1,587,040 served—33,629 were killed in combat and 103,284 were wounded. Of the 198,380 who were actually in combat, 24.2% were psychiatric casualties. In other words, the chances of being a psychiatric casualty in Korea was 143% better than the chances of being killed.

In Vietnam, 2.8 million served. Given the nature of guerrilla warfare, it is hard to estimate the number exposed to hostile fire. However, the Research Triangle Institute's Vietnam readjustment study concludes 480,000 have full-blown PTSD and another 350,000 have partial PTSD.

Gabriel writes in *No More Heroes*, a study of madness and psychiatry in war,

that contrary to what is in the movies, television, and the military, it is not only the weak and cowardly who break down in battle. There is no statistical difference in the rates of psychiatric breakdown among inexperienced troops and battle-hardened veterans.

Gabriel believes there is enough evidence from studies done after WWI to suggest it is only those who are already mentally ill, about two percent of the population, who don't break down in battle. In other words, only the sane can go insane; the already insane remain that way. "Perhaps it is simply that while collective insanity can destroy normally sane men, it cannot reverse individual insanity," writes Gabriel.

"At the heart of the traumatic syndrome—and of the overall human struggle with pain—is the diminished capacity to feel, or psychic numbing. There is a close relationship between psychic numbing... and death-linked images of denial. In order to survive, soldiers undergo a radical reduction in their sense of the actuality of things.

Having closed off and numbed themselves in order to survive, soldiers are then faced with the task of working their way back toward humanity. The struggle is to "reexperience himself as a vital human being." However, it is not all that easy, for "one's human web has been all too readily shattered, and in rearranging one's self-image and feelings, one is on guard against false promises of protection, vitality, poor even modest assistance. One fends off not only new threats of annihilation but gestures of love or help."

As we know it today, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder is marked by reexperiencing of the trauma in thought, feeling, or dream content, which is in turn evidenced by emotional and psychological numbing. Today, PTSD is characterized by depression, loss of interest in work or activities, psychic and emotional numbing, anger, anxiety, cynicism and distrust, memory loss and alienation, and other symptoms.

Psychiatrist Victor Frankel survived internment in four Nazi concentration camps during WWII. It would be quite a few years before he wrote his book, *Man's Search for Meaning*. In the book, he states clearly that "an abnormal response to an abnormal situation is normal behavior." In

continued on next page

Slower Casualties

continued from previous page

other words, if some things don't make you crazy, then you aren't very sane to begin with.

For more information on Veteran's issues, contact: Swords to Plowshare, A Veteran's Rights Organization; 400 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, (415) 552-8804

Needle Exchange

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Minority Task Force on AIDS, which will run the Bronx/Harlem Needle Exchange Program.

While many African American leaders have reconsidered their earlier positions and have come out in favor of needle exchange, the plan remains controversial. Father Lawrence Lucas, the activist-oriented priest of Harlem's Resurrection Catholic Church, says he is "very leery" of needle exchange programs. "It's like saying, 'Hey, folks, shoot it up, whatever you want, and we'll help.' When you give addicts clean needles, you aren't educating them about the evil of what they're doing." Father Lucas sees alternatives as treatment centers, education, and "an admission on the part of the government that a lot of this has been intentionally introduced into our community as experimentation."

Reverend Calvin Butts of Harlem's highly-influential Abyssinian Baptist Church is cited as telling National Public Radio's *Weekend Edition* that he has come to favor needle exchange in an article entitled "Society, Drug Injectors, and AIDS." to be published in an upcoming edition of Meharry medical school's *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. Butts refused to comment on the new needle exchange program after repeated telephone calls by this writer.

Samuel Friedman of New York's Narcotic & Drug Research, Inc., an author of the upcoming Meharry article, denies that needle exchange need be a means of skirting responsibility for providing treatment programs. "Treatment and needle exchange issues should be seen as complementary rather than contradictory. Clearly it is critical to increase drug treatment slots. Unfortunately, the supporters of that

necessary measure have not been able to get the power to implement it. Meanwhile, people keep getting infected, including some users who would not enter treatment even if it were available. Needle exchange is also effective as a method of recruiting people for treatment. For example, in Tacoma, Washington, the needle exchange program is the largest referral source to treatment in the county."

Jon Parker of the National AIDS Brigade says he is glad that activist efforts are finally paying off. "I got arrested six times for needle exchange. It's so logically correct to prevent the spread of AIDS. 90% of AIDS worldwide is heterosexual, and that's going to happen in this country unless we recognize that IV drug users are the gateway to the heterosexual population."

Plans to have free condoms distributed on request in New York City high schools have been mired in controversy, with conservative elements in the city's Board of Education arguing that such a program would "condone" teenage sex. They are demanding that material advocating abstinence be distributed to students as a precondition for the condom distribution.

Health Options

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problem causing AIDS, human behavior can also be the cure.

Stephanie Georgheff is a Natural Pathic Doctor who is currently practicing in Orange County. This article also appeared in the fall 1992 issue of Peace Conversion Times.

Rio

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tween the North and South.

I saw the need for Greens in the US to address two issues within our own context; how to bridge the gap between the Greens and the emerging people of color led environmental justice meeting; and how to sustain our own development as a movement and party, both economically and spiritually.

Thanks to the many Greens and friends who helped make my trip possible, Special thanks to Tom Macchia, who put up the money for my ticket to Rio.

Milwaukee Women's Rights

continued from page 19

fueled public opinion against the Missionaries due to their use of children in clinic attacks.

Historically, Saturdays have been big hit days for anti-choicers, and Milwaukee was no exception. The face-off one Saturday began at 5am with pro-choicers arriving to take spots in front of clinic doors. Human corridors were arranged for the women seeking abortions and escort teams prepared themselves for the worst. By 8am Water Street was a melee of pro-choice activists, police, press and anti-choicers.

Saturdays became vicious as anti-choicers from Wisconsin and neighboring states arrived and stood along side or across the street from abundant pro-choice Milwaukeeans. Clinic escorts were stationed on corners looking for women arriving for services. A woman would arrive and immediately be surrounded by 15 or more sign-wielding escorts to protect her identity from aggressive foes. They would walk across the street to the clinic, slowly but defensively. Missionaries and Youth would run across the street, throwing themselves at the feet of the escorts, attempting to block their path. Undaunted, the escorts proceeded delivering the clients to the human corridor which swallowed them in to safety.

Clinic defenders were successful. Clinics stayed open, women received health care they deserved and the out-of-town Missionaries and Youth for America cut their visit in half to go hit the vulnerable abortion clinics in Baton Rouge.

I learned a lot during the three weeks I spent in my hometown—that in this time of a country moving to the right and being controlled by the few, young and old people in cities all over this country are willing to stand up for their rights and the rights of women. Apathy has its limits.

Update

Near press time I received an update from the Milwaukee Clinic Protection Coalition. On Saturday, August 8, anti-choice fanatics came out in force to Milwaukee clinics, closing the doors for two hours. The DA's office will not prosecute,

continued on next page

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and the police will not protect the clinic doors. It is now up to the pro-choice community to keep clinic doors open.

If you would like to help out, call the Milwaukee Clinic Protection Coalition at (414) 271-9837.

Low Level Radioactive Waste

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Richland, Washington and Beatty, Nevada, has a terrible record. It allowed leaks at two dumps now closed—Maxie Flats, Kentucky and Sheffield, Illinois—and refused to help pay for cleanup (estimated at \$50 million and \$30 million respectively). Following a suit by Illinois, USE agreed to pay only \$2.5 million. USE was left to run the California dump after all other applicants dropped out.

Because of public opposition to LLRW dumps, there is some pressure and movement in Congress to pick 1 or 2 sites and send all waste there. If the Illinois, Texas, or California dumps get licensed, the nation's nuclear energy industry will have a cheap (in the short term) place to send radioactive waste, and can start to build the 200 new nuclear reactors proposed by the Bush administration. Without a cheap dump, the nuclear energy industry may be permanently stalled.

Dump opponents across the country agree that waste shouldn't be buried in unlined trenches, and that liability for radioactive waste must stay with the generators. While generator liability won't last for

eternity, it will cut taxpayer liability now and affect waste generators' near-term plans.

Many opponents believe medical waste (which is only hazardous from a few hours to 8 months) should be kept separate from industrial and power plant waste, and that both short-lived and long-lived radio nuclides should be stored in above-ground, monitored containers. (Containers can be repaired or replaced when they deteriorate.) Waste generators oppose monitored, above-ground storage because of its expense.

News breaks every week on the LLRW issue. For updated information, contact the groups listed on page 25.

Note — in the next issue of GroundWork, we hope to feature an article on the government's attempts to bribe Indian Tribes to accept High Level Radioactive Waste.

Process & Leadership

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being every day, staying true to our vision. Doing so awakens in us and those around us the power to truly heal the world.

Responses welcome: 15 Madrona St. San Rafael, CA 94901 EcoNet: dsolnit

Daniel Solnit is a father, janitor, and Green organizer. He currently writes and leads workshops on racism, sexism, consensus, co-counseling and grassroots organizing, and is preparing organizing booklets on these and other subjects.

Men & Masculinity

continued from page 41

and poetry.

The NOMAS task forces met to sketch out upcoming work. Task forces include: Committee to Eliminate Racism, Ending Men's Violence, Gay Rights, Bisexuality, Men's Studies, Pornography, Reproductive Rights, and Male-Female Relationships, among others. If you are interested in more information on NOMAS write to them at 54 Mint Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Margo Adair

Men & Masculinity 18 is meeting in San Francisco. It will be focused on the theme of diversity. Mark July 8-11 '93 on your calendar. For conference information write M&M 18, PO Box 43714, Tucson, AZ 85733.

Detroit Summer

continued from page 46

justice activists alike. Folks working to eliminate pesticides and other contaminants from food, do so for the planet, but also for the sake of people's health. To the extent that environmentalists fight pesticide for health concerns, it impinges on them to examine both access to food (which involves distribution of wealth and racism), and how toxics effect different groups of people. We have learned that food contamination is more prevalent in low income, mostly non-white communities, since industries have found it convenient to dump on people who lack the financial and political clout to fend off hazardous waste dumping. How can we fight toxic waste without considering the political, social, and economic structures that victimize people of color by using their communities as toxic dumping grounds?

By the same reasoning, Greens are forming multi-issue, multi-cultural coalitions with organizations like Save Our Sons and Daughters, Clean Water Action, and Detroiters Uniting, in projects that simultaneously combat abuse of water systems, poor communities, people of color, land & air, youth, etc.

Greens are about building a new society around the principles of democracy, ecology, social justice, and non-violence. If the Greens are to pose a genuine alternative to the forces destroying the planet and its people, our work must be systemic, not single-issue; and our priorities must reflect a desire to accept leadership from communities on whose backs the current system is built. Green Cities Projects offer a sensible structure for urban Greens to ground our electoral work in solid actions for change.

In our work with Detroit Summer, these ideals were not perfectly met. But Detroit Summer was a beginning, real gains were made, and many Greens learned a lot about racism, the urban environment, and the politics of change. Next year's Green Cities projects will more closely reflect the ideal, as will similar projects in coming years.

Amy Belanger is the Greens Clearinghouse Coordinator, and a former founding member of the Pensacola-UWF Greens. Phone the Clearinghouse for assistance in launching a Green Cities project.

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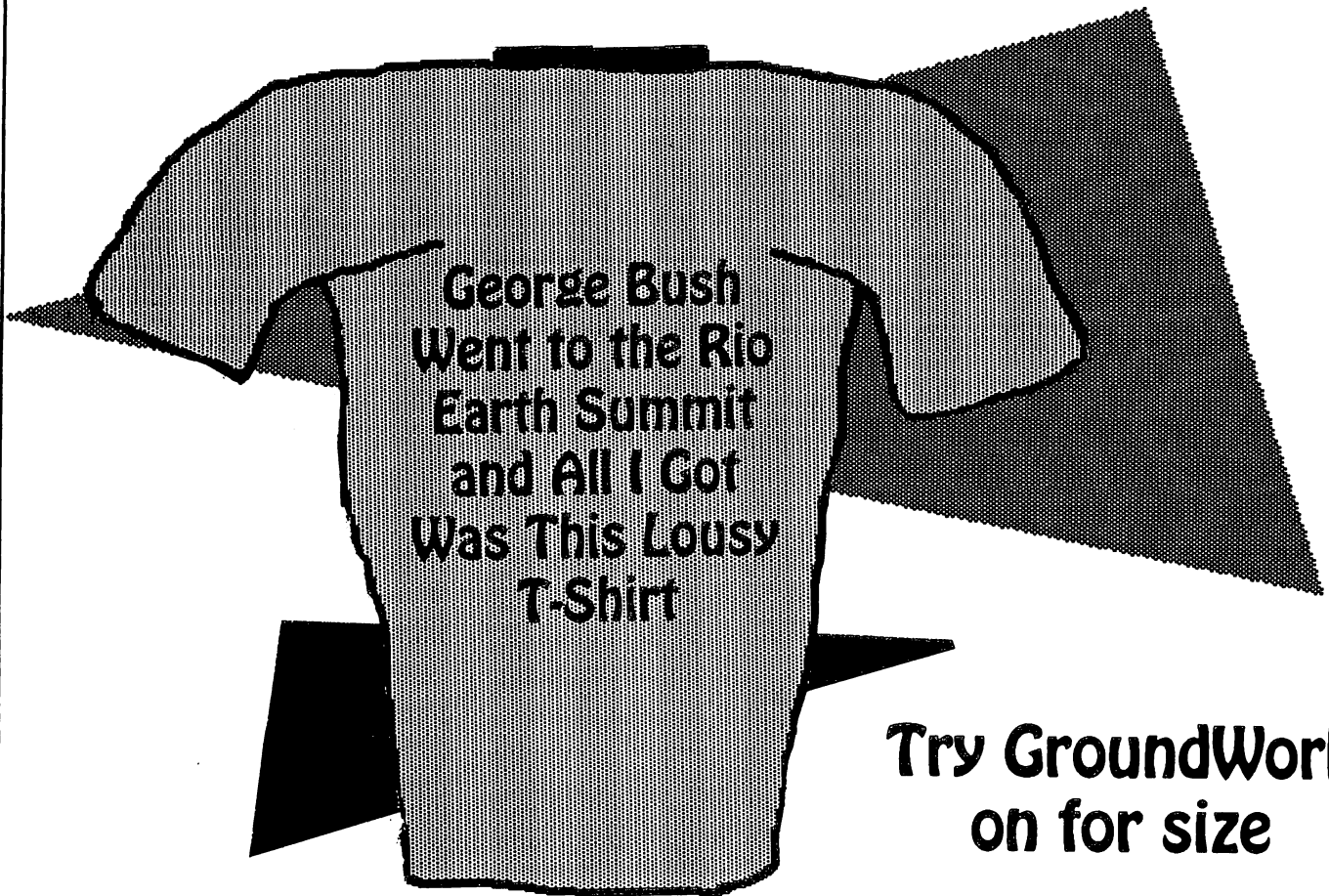
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